

# EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1959



Published by  
THE RECORDING SECRETARY,  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR,  
MADRAS 20, INDIA

MARCH 1960

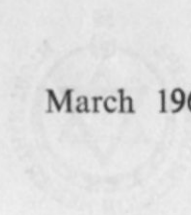
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# PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

## TO THE 84TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

*Adyar, 26 December 1959*

BY N. SRI RAM, *President*

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

It is with great joy that I welcome you all to Adyar, the International Headquarters of our world-wide Society, and to its 84th Convention. Every Convention of the Society which I have attended—I have attended many, the first one of which I have some fragmentary memories being in 1900 under the Presidency of Colonel Olcott—has been an occasion of deep happiness, and those who have come have usually gone back greatly uplifted. But unfortunately only a certain small proportion of the total membership can attend, especially from Sections other than India. Many who would like to make the trip cannot because of distance, want of time, other business and reasons. Nevertheless they are with us in spirit. So many all over the world regard Adyar as their spiritual home, being a Centre established by the Founders themselves. Let us therefore send out from here to all members, wherever they may be, our affectionate thoughts and pray that they may share in that blessing which is evoked here by our proceedings.

Following the custom of our late revered President, Dr. Annie Besant, I

ask you to join with me as I use her own words (modified slightly) to invoke the blessing of Those whom we regard as the Elder Brothers of humanity, its true guides and greatest helpers: (Rise)

*May Those who are the embodiments of Love Immortal bless with Their continued help and guidance the Society founded to further Their plans and work. May They inspire it with Their Wisdom, sustain it by Their power and energize it with Their activity.*

Every Convention of the Society, provided it is marked by a spirit of harmony and genuine friendliness, becomes in some measure a channel of Their beneficent power and influence. It is not the lectures, however good, which make the Convention effective and important, but the degree in which each one present is lifted out of himself and makes himself worthy to be such a channel. He has to become first of all a channel of all that is best in himself and extend his goodwill to others, without any thought of self-benefit, or self-importance but in a spirit of self-negation. We come here not merely to make plans and transact business—that is the prosaic aspect of our meetings—but also to meet one

another in affection and understanding, to change ourselves to some extent during our stay here and, being free from our usual preoccupations, to enter as deeply as we can into the spirit of the Wisdom and that beauty which life assumes when it is free from all taint of personal ambition and self-centredness.

We are living at an extraordinary time, for the whole of humanity, a time of great urgency and pressure, when many and far-reaching changes must take place if its future is to be as fair as we all hope it will be. One might say without exaggeration that we are in the throes of a new world beginning to be born out of the old and, though the process is extremely difficult, it cannot be stayed without disaster. Do we not, then, one and all of us who are Theosophists seeking to be helpers of humanity, as well as the Society as a whole, stand in need of a change which, if it is to be real, cannot consist in tinkering, in intellectualizations that mean little in reality, in increasing the volume of activities without a change in spirit and quality? When we look at all that is taking place in the world, the self-centredness of people, their manner of looking at things, their values, and also look at ourselves who are not very different from them in most ways, we can realize that the change which is needed is not of the sort that is achieved today but gets undone tomorrow, but something far more vital and fundamental, which must be part of that total movement which is evolution. In order to go forward there has to be the elimination of so many things in ourselves that belong to our past, so that our life and approach to everything in life may become simpler and freer, more intelligent and less self-centred.

Although the Society has an aim as high as the human mind can conceive

and a constitution which gives its members the greatest measure of freedom, thus investing the Society with great possibilities, yet when the world looks at the Society it looks at ourselves. It judges the Society by what we are, what we are doing and how we do it. The Society consists of ourselves—and sometimes not the best part of ourselves, as is the case when here and there there is an unedifying agitation or quarrel. The Society will be different, our Lodges will be conducted differently, every aspect of our work will assume a new quality and value, and we would be attracting those who are in affinity with the true aims of the work, if we ourselves had this quality and value in ourselves. On the other hand, no programme, however up-to-date and pretentious, however elaborate and ambitious, will by itself make the Society a body of real distinction and a pioneer for the developments that must take place in humanity at large, unless each one of us is himself in a measure a pioneer, and the new era which we sometimes talk about, with its new values, has dawned within ourselves. The new Humanity of Intuition, as Brother Jinarājadāsa called it, must come out of the present humanity, therefore must consist of ourselves and many other like people, but changed from what we are at present.

We need not shrink from the word "change," because life is a process of change in many directions, sometimes even contrary to its main advance, but by wisdom and intelligence we can direct that change and accelerate it enormously. It seems to me that Theosophy as a living Wisdom existing in Nature must be understood in such a way that more and more it is equated with our own living rather than with mere statements which turn into dogmas. We may translate some aspects of the truth that is perceived—Theosophy being the total truth—



into words which describe it, but the words are either symbols or describe only the appearance, the sequence, the form of things. They cannot convey the life for which the form is a receptacle, of which it is a partial expression or only a symbol.

Brother Jinarājādāsa wrote of *The World as Will, Idea and Emotion*, following obviously Schopenhauer's thesis, and referring to life as we find it everywhere in all its gradations, in man and Nature. But all that life means as experience and action, the beauty that is in it, that is brought out by these aspects into which we divide it, cannot ever be conveyed in words. We can, if we are sufficiently open, be receptive to that beauty, and that will inevitably affect our attitude towards everything and our own inner make-up. Only thus can we experience Theosophy in our lives as a Wisdom which in every aspect of it is an expression of life and related to the process of life, using these terms in no narrow sense, but as including that life which is in the soul of things, the very heart of being.

There are people who read some books or many books on Theosophy. They are stimulated for a time, but soon they get tired and ask: Is this all? They want something new with which to stimulate their tired taste. There might be any number of books, in fact, there are, if one ranges through the whole of philosophy, science and religion, but after reading them all we might still ask: Is this all? Because knowledge that does not alter our lives is but a burden and an accumulation. On the other hand, a man who aspires to be an artist may learn a few things. He may be shown a few pictures or be taken to a gallery of paintings. He will not ask: Is this all? Because for him art is a matter of creation, also perception, both of which depend on himself. Just as the endeavor

of the artist is all the time to create and perceive new things and for that perception he has to be as impressionable as possible along his own lines, so we need to be sensitive to all aspects of life and create something by our action and the very manner of our living, which can even be an unconscious creation but is of value in life's onward march. That creation is of most value, in fact is worthy to be called creation, which is produced or created most genuinely out of oneself, the soul of oneself, where what is felt and perceived is, at least for oneself, of the highest value.

The Divine Wisdom we call Theosophy, poorly as we understand it, teaches us one thing, and that is that in each embodiment of life and in life as a whole there is infinite beauty, infinite riches, and it is man's task to make himself its channel, an instrument for its syllabled expression. This is possible only as each ceases to live and act for himself, centred in his pleasures, schemes, importance and ambitions, but lives for the whole, for all life, throwing himself open to it and taking it into his heart. That is what Theosophy means, translated into terms of living, and not just a propagandist gospel, a set of intellectual dogmas or propositions to be enunciated and believed in, without letting the waters of life break through our encrustations. It is only when life becomes for each one of us, in his measure, an unconscious creation and a continual opening from within, that the whole group of us who constitute the Society will become a channel for ever-new forces and create in the Society a magnetic field, capable of electrifying those who come within its radiation, and of drawing into it people who can be vital channels of Truth.

The future of the Society depends, to my mind, not on the largeness of its organization nor upon how respectable



and well-settled it is, as respectability is usually counted, but upon how much genuineness there is in each one of us, how much earnestness in subordinating ourselves to the work to which we are called for the good of our fellow-beings, in short, upon how much correspondence there is between the benign wisdom that is Theosophy and the ways of our life and action. The Society should not become a mere machine for us to tend, uphold and run mechanically, collecting members as we can and making noise to collect them. The aim of each one of us must be to pour into the movement what he can give to it of himself which will be of value to others, what comes from his heart, his dedication and the pure expression of the truth he perceives.

Mrs. Evelyn Hornidge, the General Secretary of the Irish Section, concludes her Report by saying: "We have something wonderful to tell the world which, if understood, would make the world a different place, a place of peace and greater happiness. We in the Society are here to help in that understanding, to contribute something to the awakening of the hidden divinity in man and a deeper understanding of the meaning of Brotherhood." If I may comment on this statement, there is this wonder in life, in Nature, in ourselves. If we have felt it even to a slight extent, then there will be a flaming enthusiasm in our hearts, and it will not be long before there is a resurgence of life born out of that enthusiasm.

The General Secretary of the Netherlands Section, Mr. A. J. H. van Leeuwen, makes the following observations which are of interest in this connection: "As the centenary jubilee of our Society is drawing near, we feel as if a new spirit is stirring from within. As in the autumn the leaves are falling, many members are leaving our ranks but now the central

trunk and the sturdy branches of our Society can be seen all the clearer. That central trunk is the mystical teaching of the Eternal Wisdom, and in this Section we are experiencing a growing interest in the teachings of spiritual mysticism transcending the acquisitions of science, philosophy and religion, though accepting them all as a feeding soil and a storehouse of valuable and indispensable information." In the Netherlands Section two Lodges have been discontinued, and there has been a fall in membership even since last year. In view of the fact that there has been a similar decrease in some other Sections too, I would say in terms of Mr. van Leeuwen's simile: Let the leaves fall, so long as there is life uprising in the central trunk. It will not take long for the tree to clothe itself with leaves, young, fresh and new, when once it is rejuvenated in that trunk, when there is new life and spirit, the spirit that is needed to renovate the world. If at present "we do not succeed in moving deeply the world," as says Dr. Paul Thorin, who is now the General Secretary for France, succeeding Mr. Francis Brunel, it is because we are not deeply moved within ourselves. So long as interest moves within a narrow set of ideas it must soon come to a stop. But if it flows along ever-widening vistas—Theosophy is a view of life which opens such vistas—then that expansion can go on indefinitely.

In the United States of America, a Section exceedingly well organized for systematic work, there are now 4,521 members and 148 Lodges. Mr. J. S. Perkins, the General Secretary, gives some details of the radio propaganda carried on by the Section. In six cities there is a broadcast on some Theosophical subject each week during 52 weeks in the year; another city presents a 39 week series; in three others it is on a 26 week basis; two

other places present a 13 week series; most of them with financial assistance from the National Headquarters and using carefully prepared scripts. The Department of Education at Headquarters helps Lodges with fresh material for Lodge programmes, tape-lectures, slides and other visual aids. In this and other ways, including systematic lecturing, the Headquarters keeps in constant touch with Lodges in all parts of the country. The Spotlight programme which Mr. Perkins instituted soon after he assumed office as National President has had to be brought to an end, but its place is being taken by a programme of Regional Expansion which will be carried out in chosen areas where the necessary workers are available. Mr. Perkins observes: "The greatest service we can perform for Theosophy is to publicize its existence." As in previous years there was a National Conference last November, this time at Miami in Florida, in addition to the Convention and Summer School at "Olcott".

The Indian Section has now 7,162 members, 432 Lodges and 50 Centres. The General Secretary mentions in his Report the starting of a Department of Studies at the Section Headquarters to provide Lodges with syllabuses, lists of books, guidance for the making of Lodge programmes, slides, tape-lectures and other similar aid. The Department is also intended to conduct correspondence courses, answer inquiries and train workers and lecturers. It is really several Departments in one, and as it develops its activities, it should prove an important agency for the strengthening and vivification of Lodge work throughout the country. Mr. Rohit Mehta rebuts in the introductory part of his Report the criticism sometimes levelled at the Society that its preaching of a certain philosophy is not what is needed, we have to do "practical" work. He points out that

through the work of the Society and its literature a very large number of people throughout the world have been helped to find a living philosophy of life, and that even in the limited meaning of the word "practical," Theosophists in India have been and are conducting many educational and charitable institutions. While such work has its place, the fundamental aim, he writes, must be "transformation of the human mind, so that it may know what real happiness is."

Dr. L. J. Bendit, the General Secretary of the English Section, while recording a small decline in membership, feels "a certain sense of movement within the Section as if a new current is beginning to flow". He thinks there is a healthy tone underlying the Section and the Society as a whole. A feature of the work of this Section is the Research Centre with which Dr. and Mrs. Bendit have been always closely associated. The Centre has just published a book entitled *The Mystery of Healing*, a subject of general interest not only to Theosophists but also to many groups outside the Society. The Science Group of the Theosophical World University, which is the larger title of the Research Centre, issues a journal which, Dr. Bendit says, circulates not only outside England but also outside the Society.

The General Secretary of the Finnish Section, Mme. Sylvi Horstio, reports increased activity in the Section. The Blavatsky Lodge in Helsinki has started a new journal to appeal to the public, in addition to the Section's magazine *Teosofi*. Another Lodge, Kalevala, has published a Finnish translation of Miss Clara Codd's *Ageless Wisdom of Life*. The smaller Lodges outside Helsinki are being frequently visited by lecturers from Helsinki. As a result of these efforts perhaps, Mme. Horstio says, the interest in Theosophy in Finland is growing.

A Section where there is much new activity and great enthusiasm at present is Cuba. Mr. Alfredo Puig, who is its new General Secretary, writes that, thanks to the recent revolution in Cuba, peace reigns all over the land and there is perfect freedom for every citizen to go about at all times in full safety. He and his co-workers are trying to make the best possible use of these conditions. The regular work of the Lodges in the interior, which had to be suspended because of the civil war, has been resumed in full, and several Lodges have gained strength by new members. A very special feature of this revival, says Señor Puig, is that youth are attracted to Theosophy. A special Convention of the Section was held in June in Santiago in the extreme east of the island, in order to re-knit sundered ties and re-start the work in that part of the country. The General Secretary is re-organizing the work in such a way that the Lodges in every province are regularly visited. He himself issues to all members a monthly bulletin named *Contact*, containing suggestions and news of interest.

Mexico is another Section which reports a similar resurgence. Mr. Arturo Vado Lopez who is its General Secretary, following Mr. Peña Gil who was custodian of the Section affairs for 22 years, writes of the changes that have taken place as a result of decisions by the National Convention held last December in Mexico, attended by all the 26 Lodges of the Section. The Lodges are now being visited by members of the National Council and the National Headquarters is in constant touch with the Lodges. The Lodges themselves are actively carrying on propaganda through small publications which are distributed all round. Mr. Lopez mentions the work of a member, Mr. Alcaraz, publishing at his own expense a booklet series and distri-

buting them through the Lodges. It was necessary, says Mr. Lopez, not only to focus attention step by step on every aspect of the work, but also to harmonize psychologically the different elements for more co-operation and effectiveness in the work.

The problem of translation is one that confronts most if not all non-English-speaking Sections. The French and German Regional Committees formed by the European Federation have taken under their wings this problem, so far as those two languages are concerned. Also there is the *Editions Adyar*, which is part of the French Section set-up. The work of systematizing translation into Spanish, to which I referred in my last year's address, has yet to be put on a proper basis. But there are other countries where the Section can only do what it can with its particular and often very limited resources. The Report from Brazil sent by Señora Cinira Riedel de Figueiredo, the Acting Vice-President, in the absence of Señor Armando Sales, the General Secretary, mentions the establishment of a Book Department through which the Section hopes to expand its translation and publication work. Most of the available Theosophical books are in Spanish but a large part of the public in Brazil knows only Portuguese. The Department has printed during the year 60,000 propaganda leaflets containing the basic teachings of Theosophy.

The General Secretary for Uruguay, Señor Anibal Lissardy, mentions the work of Brothers Alvaro Araujo and Mario Mendez in translating from English into Spanish selections from Theosophical literature. In Colombia an important decision mentioned by Señora Carmen de Vengoechea, the General Secretary, was to distribute freely the 32 page pamphlets of the series entitled *Theosophical Collection*, all translations by

Sister Corina Martinez and Brother Ballesteros.

Señor José Joaquín Ulloa, the General Secretary of the Central American Section, which is spread over a number of Republics, writes that they are preparing for the very first Central American Convention, which is to be held in San Salvador next August. There has been a great increase in the activities of all the Lodges during the year.

In Canada the first Convention of the Section was held only this year, and judging by its success, there is reason to hope that it will be an annual event hereafter. The Convention took place in Toronto, and Lt.-Colonel Thomson, the General Secretary, says it has given an impetus particularly to the Lodges in the eastern part of the country.

An important event in the Australian Section, writes Miss Helen Zahara, the General Secretary, was the welcoming of a new Isis Lodge in Sydney, consisting of persons who were formerly members of the independent Sydney Theosophical Society but have now joined the Australian Section. Their joining this Society is not only a cause for happiness but also evidence of the friendly atmosphere that they feel to be existing in the Society. The Australian Section is organizing an Indo-Pacific Conference to be held at Sydney from December 31st to January 9th 1960. Miss Helen Zahara expects to see at this gathering a fairly large number of delegates from Australia and New Zealand and a few from other Sections such as Indonesia, Viet-Nam and Malaya. Australia is a land of large distances where the Lodges tend to become isolated one from another. Therefore special attempts are made to help them from the National Headquarters with tape-lectures, study courses and so on.

Miss Clarice Gregory, General Secretary for New Zealand, records the fact

that the Vasanta Garden School for children, which has been an important part of the Section's activities for forty years has had to be closed down for want of suitable teachers. In this Section too tape-lectures and slides are used very much by Lodges as well as individual members. The General Secretary sends out a monthly news-letter to keep Lodges and members in touch with the Section Headquarters.

Mrs. Mary Patterson, General Secretary for South Africa, writes that the Section has been getting gradually more integrated. They held two Regional Conferences during the year, besides the National Convention, one for the Northern parts, including the Rhodesias, at Bulawayo and the other for the South at George. She herself has visited all the Lodges, giving them the needed help and guidance.

It is not possible for me in this brief survey to mention every Section of the Society; but in all of them, even in those where there is nothing new or special to report, the work is going on steadily.

In a number of Sections the members eagerly look forward to the annual Summer School, which is usually held in some quiet and pleasant spot. In Europe this year there were Summer Schools held by the English, Icelandic, Swedish, Finnish, Danish and Netherlands Sections. Also there was held at Pichl in Austria a Summer School for the German-speaking region. I have already referred to the Summer School which follows the American Section Convention at "Olcott". In Australia they had an Easter School—as they call it—following the Convention at Brisbane. The Young Theosophists of Australia conducted a Summer School of their own at Christmas at a place in Mt. Lofty near Adelaide.

The most important event this year for Europe as a whole was the 23rd



European Federation Congress held at Hamburg, Germany, in the first week of August. It was attended by some 260 members from 19 countries and was as happy and successful a gathering as its predecessor at Baden. At this Congress Mr. John Coats was elected General Secretary of the European Federation, with the title Chairman of the European Council, in the place of Mr. J. E. van Dissel who had been General Secretary since 1938. The whole of the work of the Federation in its present form, with periodicals in three different languages, several regional committees and their activities has really been built up by him. It may not be out of place here to pay a tribute to his labors and his success in achieving the measure of co-operation among the European Sections that now exists.

I myself made a tour in Europe this summer, visiting Rome, Paris, the British Isles, Ireland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Holland, Denmark and Germany, and on my way back, Athens in Greece. I was happy to be present at the annual Conventions in Wales, Eire and Sweden, and at the Summer Schools in England, Iceland, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. I also presided over the European Congress at Hamburg. It was a great pleasure to me to meet the members and the workers in all the places visited. Miss Clara Codd, after completing her year's tour in the United States, covering all parts of that vast country, was in England during the summer and a speaker at the English Summer School. From England she has come to Adyar for the School of the Wisdom. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Miss Sandra Chase had a programme of work covering three months in the Viet-Nam Section, and Mr. Hodson also spent seven weeks in Australia, giving lectures in Sydney and Brisbane. Both he and Mr. John Coats, who also visited

a number of places in Australia, were guest speakers at the Australian Convention in Brisbane. Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton, Spotlight field-workers in the United States for six years, visited Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaya and Ceylon on their way from the United States to the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, and lectured in all these countries. Dr. and Mrs. Bendit of England did a tour of the Scandinavian countries for four weeks in September and October. Mr. Rohit and Mrs. Shridevi Mehta toured over an extensive area in East Africa for a period of fourteen weeks, visiting 23 places. Mr. Alfredo Puig, General Secretary of Cuba, was able to go to a number of places in Central America and Mexico. Lt.-Colonel E. L. Thomson, the General Secretary for Canada, was also in England this year, speaking at a number of places. Members in all the countries mentioned have much appreciated these visits. I might also mention here that Mr. Boris de Zirkoff was on a private visit to Europe this year and visited many Theosophical centres. He was welcomed in all these places and his talks were much appreciated.

The School of the Wisdom at Adyar began its sessions this year on October 2nd, and has completed the first half of its course. I am very glad that Miss Clara Codd has been able to come and help this work, before returning to South Africa. It is a very good sign that there are more students this year than in any previous year, and the twenty-four who are present represent Australia, England, United States, New Zealand, South Africa, East Africa, Viet-Nam, India, Malaya, the Netherlands and Hungary.

A number of the Section Reports mention the activities of the Young Theosophist groups. In Australia these groups are active in the larger Lodges. In New

Zealand they have their own programmes but assist the Lodges on special occasions. I have in previous years mentioned the work of Young Theosophists in Europe. One of the most active Young Theosophist Groups which has many plans for expanding its work is in Argentina.

The Theosophical Order of Service is active in a number of countries. In the United States its activities are organized under different heads, Mrs. Lois Holmes being the National Director. There are active Groups in Australia, now under Mrs. Winifred Mackenzie as Director. In Brisbane the Order conducts a home for elderly ladies. In Brazil an important piece of work taken up by the Order is to supply food to children in need and also help parents in their homes with advice, food and clothing. In many countries, as for instance in Burma, work of a humanitarian nature is carried on by the Lodges themselves and of course also by individual members. Wales is one of the countries in which the members are active in work for the United Nations, Animal Welfare, Vegetarianism, help to refugees and so on. I might mention here the refugees from Tibet in India who are still in need of help. Among other agencies Srimati Rukmini Devi has been organizing help for them and for the education of their children.

The work of the Adyar Library is making steady progress. Dr. Sreekrishna Sarma has had to leave the Library to take up work in the Venkateshvara University. Our grateful thanks are due to him for his valuable services. The Adyar Library's 75th anniversary falls in 1961. I share the hope expressed by the Librarian, Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, that the new Adyar Library building which we have been planning will be commenced soon and completed by then. We have a certain sum of money reserved

for this building but need a substantial addition to it to make the building large enough to house the Library conveniently providing the necessary amenities for different departments of its work.

I want to acknowledge again my indebtedness to Miss Emma Hunt, the Recording Secretary, Mr. Edwin Lord, the Treasurer, all the Departmental Heads, Assistant Heads, Advisors and all the other workers at Adyar for their continued help. It is they really who carry the main burden of the work at Adyar. I give here the names of the principal workers:

*Archives*, Miss Katherine Beechey; *Adyar Library*, Mrs. Radha Burnier, Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan; *Bhojanasala*, Mr. Balaji Rao (replacing Mrs. K. S. Jagada); *Dispensary*, Dr. S. V. Joseph, Mr. S. Krishnamurti; *Engineering Department*, Mr. M. D. Subramaniam, Mr. R. Balfour-Clarke; *Gardens*, Mr. N. Y. Sastry, Mr. V. R. Manickam; *Custody of Movable Properties*, Mr. Narainji K. Kevat; *Laundry*, Mr. M. Gopalakrishna Iyer; *Leadbeater Chambers*, Mrs. A. Wouters and Mr. B. Wouters; *Recording Secretary's Office*, Miss Emma Hunt; *Sanitation and Hygiene*, Madame P. Cazin; *Theosophical Publishing House*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Mr. K. Ramathan; *The Theosophist*, Mrs. D. R. Dinshaw; *Treasurer's Office*, Mr. Edwin N. Lord, Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan; *Vasanta Press*, Mr. M. Subramaniam, Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau; *Watch and Ward*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti.

Among those who have passed away this year I must mention here Mr. Henry Hotchener, well known in the American Section for his life-long devotion to the Society and a worker since the days of Colonel Olcott; Mr. G. N. Gokhale who was for nine years General Secretary of the Indian Section, and by constant travelling throughout India and work at



Vārānasi contributed greatly to the development of the Section; Mr. H. S. L. Polak who was for many years Treasurer of the English Section and had many contacts with Indians on account of his interest in Indian politics and the welfare of Indians abroad; and Mr. C. R. Groves who was for some years a much-loved General Secretary of the English Section, and has been at Adyar a number of times, mainly in connection with the work of the School of the Wisdom. Our affectionate thoughts go with these Brethren and others who have passed on during the year.

I must again thank all those who have contributed to the Adyar Day collection, and particularly members of the Theosophical Society in America, who for many years have been the principal contributors to it. I would like to point out once again that the total of the *Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund*, which was established in 1948 to provide a steady income for the upkeep of Adyar, still stands at only 65% of the then target. Because of the increase in cost of almost everything in India we have continually to increase not only wages and salaries, but also other expenses. The annual deficit, as the Treasurer's Report will point out, is still a huge figure, of which only a small portion is covered by the interest received from the A.B.C. Fund. We need contributions also for the *Raja Commemorative Fund*, and as I have pointed out already, for the new Adyar Library Building. And there are other needs. On the Adyar estate there is

need for additional quarters for the accommodation of those Convention delegates who come to Adyar and cannot be housed in temporary make-shift huts. We are also proposing to construct ere long a suitable building for the present Laundry, which was established long ago by Dr. Besant for the benefit of residents on the estate, and have it equipped with up-to-date machinery. Our present laundry was good enough at the time when it was started but it is far from modern standards.

The term of office for which I was elected President will be expiring on 16th February 1960, and there is at present an election going on, for which two candidates have been nominated namely, myself and Brother Geoffrey Hodson. As I have often said, the strength of the Society and its progress should not depend upon who are its Presidents, General Secretaries and other office-holders. Each one of the Society's 34,000 and odd members can help where he is in his own way. Each must shine with his own light and contribute to the total illumination. In his own heart by himself each one must find the truth. To give expression to that truth, to utter the message that will give the greatest help and comfort to all, no office is needed. Yet when needed one has to answer the call and take up the post, whether it be that of door-keeper or President, and give of his best in that capacity.

N. SRI RAM

## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Income and Expense Account of the Theosophical Society for the fiscal year ended 30-9-1959 closed with a deficit of Rs. 8,682 as shown below in a summarized form.

		Budget	Actuals
		Rs.	Rs.
Expense including Departments	..	5,50,900	6,19,977
Income       ,,       ,,	..	4,83,630	5,37,101
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		67,270	82,876
Less Donations received (after allocation to funds and accounts)	..		74,194
			<hr/>
Deficit for the year	..		8,682
			<hr/>

The amount received for Adyar Day (including a sum of Rs. 104.21 brought forward from last year) was Rs. 32,483.68. As usual the major portion amounting to Rs. 21,492.76 was donated by members in U.S.A. Other donations and bequests amounted to Rs. 55,294.90. The President allocated the amount to various funds as per details given below:

			Rs.	nP.
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	..	..	1,000	00
Besant Theosophical School	..	..	1,000	00
Adyar Library	..	..	2,000	00
Welfare Fund	..	..	3,500	00
President's Discretionary Fund	..	..	1,000	00
Faithful Service Fund	..	..	5,000	00
Sum made available to General Fund				
a. Adyar Day Donations	Rs. 18,900.00			
b. Other Donations	55,294.90			
		<hr/>	74,194	90
			<hr/>	
			87,694	90
Retained for further allocation		..	83	68
			<hr/>	
			87,778	58
			<hr/>	

*Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.*—

The amount in the Fund at the commencement of the year was Rs. 12,31,912. During the year we received donations and bequests amounting to Rs. 93,858 thus bringing the total amount to Rs. 13,25,770. The target for this fund is Rs. 20,00,000 (Twenty lakhs) and therefore the fund is still open for contributions. The A.B.C. Fund produced an income of approximately Rs. 36,000 during the year. When the target of Rs. 20,00,000 is reached the income should be about Rs. 80,000 per year which would still further help to absorb the unavoidable annual deficit.

*The Faithful Service Fund.*—At the beginning of the fiscal year the amount available in the fund was Rs. 58,723. The total disbursements to beneficiaries amounted to Rs. 10,618. During the year a total sum of Rs. 9,031 representing Adyar Day Allocation, Interest and other Donations was received for this fund and the balance at credit at the close of the year was Rs. 57,136.

*Investments.*—During the year we invested over Rs. 100,000 in Government Securities and we also received partial release of a bequest in the form of Shares.

*Immovable Property.*—The house property known as “Vrindavan” at Kotagiri, Nilgiris was sold as we found the cost of maintenance and repairs was not justified.

*Repairs and Renewals* (Rs. 56,616).—The expense under this head for the year was more than the budgeted amount. This

was due to the continuation of our programme to rehabilitate the older buildings on the Estate.

*Garden Department.*—This department has kept its deficit within budgeted limits.

*Watch and Ward and Sanitation.*—The expenditure of these two departments approximated their respective budgets.

*Leadbeater Chambers.*—This year this department has shown a surplus which was mainly due to increased number of residents and boarders throughout the year.

*Laundry.*—The excess over the budget limit is due to increased cost of labour.

*Bhojanasala.*—On account of decreased number of boarders and owing to the rising cost of provisions and labour, this department showed an increased deficit for the year.

*Engineering Department.*—This department showed a small deficit. This was due to some unforeseen repairs to our water system and our electric transmission line as well as increases in office salaries.

*Vasanta Press.*—Owing to increased turnover, after appropriating Rs. 3,000 to Pensions and Gratuities Fund this department shows a surplus Rs. 1,659.

Our overall budget for the coming year 1959-'60 shows a deficit of Rs. 75,700. It is hoped that this deficit will be largely covered by donations from members.

EDWIN N. LORD,  
Hony. Treasurer.



## THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Budget	EXPENSE								Rs.	nP.
Rs.										
38,000	To Establishment—Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,764	19	
40,000	„ Repairs and Renewals	...	...	...	...	...	...	56,616	54	
3,500	„ Light and Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,807	00	
9,000	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,436	48	
3,000	„ Postages, Telegrams and Telephones	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,617	97	
4,000	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,862	39	
15,000	„ Taxes	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,071	86	
800	„ Publications to General Secretaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	735	14	
300	„ Publication Grant to T.P.H.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	00	
2,000	„ Museum and Archives	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,473	80	
	„ Convention Travelling Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,342	71	
„ Departmental Results:										
		Expense		Income		Net				
		Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.			
7,000	Garden	47,863	49	40,725	88	— 7,137	61			
16,000	Watch and Ward	19,171	21	2,873	07	— 16,298	14			
3,800	Sanitation	4,376	39	1,242	25	— 3,134	14			
4,600	Dispensary	8,908	88	2,594	96	— 6,313	92			
800	Leadbeater Chambers	22,835	20	24,848	81	+ 2,013	61			
2,300	Laundry	9,346	91	6,479	46	— 2,867	45			
1,400	Bhojanasala	14,370	52	11,229	40	— 3,141	12			
	Engineering Department	1,46,327	66	1,44,972	43	— 1,355	23			
+ 1,000	Vasanta Press	1,70,655	09	1,72,314	61	+ 1,659	52			
		4,43,855	35	4,07,280	87	— 36,574	48	36,574	48	
								1,76,302	56	
„ Appropriations:										
5,000	To Adyar Library	...	...	...	...	5,000	00			
5,000	„ The School of the Wisdom	...	...	...	...	5,000	00			
6,600	„ The President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...	...	6,600	00	16,600	00	
„ Depreciation:										
19,300	On Immovable Property @ 2%	...	...	...	...	14,847	00			
	„ Movable Property @ 7½ %	...	...	...	...	4,544	47			
	„ “ Gulistan ” @ 2%	...	...	...	...	403	00	19,794	47	
								2,12,697	03	

For The Theosophical Society,  
 EDWIN N. LORD,  
 Hony. Treasurer.

ADYAR  
 28th December, 1959



## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1959

[illegible]

Examined and found correct,  
M. K. DANDEKER & CO.,  
*Chartered Accountants.*



## BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES				Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
<b>Capital:</b>							
Balance at Oct. 1, 1958 ...	...			9,93,005	95		
Less Adyar Library Capital (see below)	...			1,89,167	90		
				8,03,838	05		
Less Excess of Expense over Income	...			8,682	09		
				7,95,155	96		
Add Adyar Library Capital	...	...		1,89,457	78	9,84,613	74
<b>Other Departments:</b>							
Bhojanasala ...	...	2,732	98				
Engineering Department ...	...	78,794	82				
Garden Department ...	...	72,541	87				
Laundry ...	...	1,219	01				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	...	2,556	00				
Vasanta Press ...	...	1,64,615	02				
		3,22,459	70				
<b>Funds: (see notes below)</b>							
<b>Of the Society Interest Bearing.—</b>							
Adyar Library Endowment Fund (a)	...	80,720	47				
Adyar Library Building Fund (b)	...	1,62,448	61				
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (c)	...	13,25,770	17				
Miscellaneous Funds (a)	...	1,00,201	93				
do. do. (d)	...	14,397	60				
		16,83,538	78				
<b>Of the Society Non-Interest Bearing:—</b>							
President's Travelling Fund ...	...	10,425	18				
Miscellaneous ...	...	67,007	34	17,60,971	30		
				38,607	79	17,99,579	09
<b>Of Others: Interest-Bearing</b>	...					79,380	37
<b>Sundry Deposits</b>	...	...				25,499	67
<b>Sundry Creditors</b>	...	...					
<b>Adyar Library:</b>							
Miscellaneous Funds ...	...	...		17,814	72		
Sundry Creditors ...	...	...		5,803	12		
Gratuities Reserve ...	...	...		12,875	79	36,493	63
<b>Reserves:</b>							
Electrical Line ...	...	...		6,000	00		
Meter and Water Line Renewal ...	...	...		4,000	00		
Water Tank ...	...	...		2,000	00		
Supplemental Welfare Fund ...	...	...		41	91		
Special Purposes Fund ...	...	...		15,035	72		
Adyar Day Unallocated ...	...	...		83	68	27,161	31
<b>Note.—(a)</b> Capital and Interest available for specific purposes.							
<b>(b)</b> Interest available for general purposes.							
<b>(c)</b> Interest only available for general purposes.							
<b>(d)</b> Interest only available for specific purposes.							
						29,52,727	81

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1959

PROPERTY AND ASSETS					
			Rs.	nP.	Rs. nP.
<b>Immovable Property:</b>					
<i>Lands at Adyar:</i>					
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	1,93,857	81	
<i>Lands at Urur:</i>					
Purchased during the year	...	...	13,557	50	
<i>Lands in Sindh:</i>					
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	10,000	00	
<i>Buildings at Adyar:</i>					
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	Rs. 7,42,394	58		
Additions during the year	...	„ 23,046	38		
		7,65,440	96		
Less Sales during the year	...	8,539	00		
		7,56,901	96		
Less Depreciation to-date	...	3,25,056	78		
			4,31,845	18	
<i>“ Gulistan ”, Kotagiri:</i>					
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	20,169	72		
Less Depreciation to-date	...	2,905	88		
			17,263	84	
					6,66,524 33
<b>Movable Properties, Adyar:</b>					
Balance at Oct. 1, 1958	...	...	78,739	64	
Additions during the year	...	...	2,550	53	
			81,290	17	
Less Depreciation Reserve to-date	...	...	61,249	03	
					20,041 14
<b>Investments at Cost:</b>					
Government of India Loan 2½% to 4% F. V. 7,83,100	...	...	7,72,365	43	
Madras State Govt. Loan 2½% to 4% F. V. 2,24,600	...	...	2,24,500	30	
United Kingdom Loan	...	...	3,03,180	70	
Surrender Value of Life Policy	...	...	28,000	00	
Miscellaneous	...	...	54,472	27	
Fixed Deposit	...	...	25,535	26	
					14,08,053 96
Interest accrued on Investments	...	...			38,225 17
Fees and Dues Outstanding	...	...			1,464 28
Sundry Debtors	...	...	80,399	23	
Less Rentals billed in Advance	...	...	2,189	25	
					78,209 98
<b>Departmental Assets:</b>					
Electrical Installation, less Depreciation	...	...	24,587	00	
Tools, etc.	...	...	23,682	50	
Printing Machinery, etc.	...	...	95,384	00	
Supplies on hand	...	...	1,21,169	73	
Accounts Recoverable	...	...	5,836	43	
Cash	...	...	505	00	
Advance Rentals	...	...	52	00	
Standing Crops	...	...	66,443	98	
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium	...	...	1,076	29	
Works-in-Progress	...	...	19,134	82	
Sundry Assets	...	...	87,657	41	
					4,45,529 16
<b>Adyar Library:</b>					
Books and Manuscripts	...	...	1,50,461	81	
Furniture	...	...	26,875	56	
Stock of Publications	...	...	29,182	34	
Miscellaneous	...	...	2,029	05	
					2,08,548 76
<b>Cash:</b>					
In Madras Banks on Current Account	...	...	67,981	31	
In London Bank do.	...	...	5,109	38	
On hand	...	...	13,040	34	
					86,131 03
					29,52,727 81

Examined and found correct,  
M. K. DANDEKER & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

# FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1959

					Rs.	nP.
The Theosophical Society in	U.S.A.	1958-59	\$	2095.86	..	9,892 45
"	Central America		\$	20.80	..	98 14
"	Cuba	1958	\$	106.15	..	499 43
"	Venezuela		\$	40.00	..	188 50
"	Colombia		\$	29.20	..	137 59
"	Canada	1958-59	\$	91.75	..	454 17
"	England	1958-59	£	270-17- 6	..	3,599 20
"	N. Ireland	1958	£	1-12-10	..	25 15
"	Australia	1958	£	43- 5- 5	..	574 32
"	Iceland	1958	£	22-15- 2	..	302 38
"	W. Africa	1957-59	£	28- 0- 0	..	371 80
"	Wales	1958	£	10-10- 7	..	139 92
"	Scotland	1957	£	14-19- 0	..	198 65
"	S. Africa	1958	£	40- 1- 6	..	532 36
"	Uruguay		£	10- 0- 0	..	132 87
"	Ireland		£	1- 8- 3	..	18 79
"	New Zealand	NZ	£	62-13-11	..	824 78
"	Switzerland				..	342 83
"	Netherlands	1957&58			..	3,868 74
"	Puerto Rico				..	235 00
"	Denmark	1958			..	101 70
"	Sweden	1958			..	212 00
"	India	1957-58			..	1,445 38
"	Malaya and Singapore	1956-59			..	647 84
Canadian Federation	..	..	\$	48.90	..	238 75
Non-Sectionalized Lodges, etc.	..	..			..	711 89
Spanish Friends	..	..	£	75- 0- 0	..	996 41
						<hr/>
						26,791 04
						<hr/>

## FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1959

DISBURSEMENTS			RECEIPTS		
		Rs. nP.			Rs. nP.
To Payments to Beneficiaries ...	10,618	63	By Opening Balance ...	58,723	57
„ Balance carried over ...	57,136	52	„ Donations including Adyar Day Allocation ...	7,685	99
			„ Interest ...	1,345	59
	<u>67,755</u>	<u>15</u>		<u>67,755</u>	<u>15</u>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S  
TRAVELLING FUND

\* RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1959

					Rs. nP.
Action Lodge, England	£ 3- 0- 0	..	..	..	39 86
Regional Council for British Isles	£ 25- 0- 0	..	..	..	332 17
The T.S. in England	£ 50- 0- 0	..	..	..	664 39
The T.S. in Scotland	£ 9- 7- 0	..	..	..	124 45
Mr. A. V. Greenslade, England	£ 25- 0- 0	..	..	..	332 18
Mr. Russell M. Bailey, U.S.A.	\$ 203.00	..	..	..	954 63
Southern California Federation	\$ 30.00	..	..	..	141 45
Anonymous	\$ 10.00	..	..	..	47 02
Telugu Federation		..	..	..	50 50
Mr. V. C. Rajagopalachari, Vellore		..	..	..	9 00
In Memory of Mrs. P. Shroff		..	..	..	100 00
Mr. S. H. Vaswani, Adyar		..	..	..	2 00
Mrs. H. B. Vaswani, Adyar		..	..	..	1 00
					<u>2,798 65</u>





## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

## PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1959

	Rs.	nP.		Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
To Stock on hand, 1-10-'58 ...	22,809	78	By Sales including sub- scription to Brahma Vidya ...			9,694	38
„ Cost of Publications in- cluding Brahma Vidya ...	13,406	61	„ Stock on hand 30-9-'59 ...	50,898	84		
	36,216	39	Less write down ...	21,716	50	29,182	34
„ Surplus Carried to Income & Expense A/C	2,660	33					
	38,876	72				38,876	72

For The Theosophical Society,

EDWIN N. LORD,

*Hony. Treasurer.*

Examined and found correct,

M. K. DANDEKER &amp; CO.

*Chartered Accountants.*

21st December, 1959



## INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF THE

Budget	EXPENSE					Rs.	nP.
Rs.							
26,000	To Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	25,888	37
1,000	" Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy	...	...	...	...	1,019	13
600	" Postages	...	...	...	...	1,076	85
1,800	" Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	2,298	71
200	" Fire Insurance	...	...	...	...	211	25
1,500	" Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1,616	78
1,500	" Reserve for Gratuities	...	...	...	...	1,500	00
1,000	" Reserve for Depreciation	...	...	...	...	860	00
						34,471	09

For The Theosophical Society,  
 EDWIN N. LORD,  
 Hony. Treasurer.

ADYAR  
 21st December, 1959



## BALANCE SHEET OF THE

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS				Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
<i>Endowment Fund:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	99,019	84		
Less Excess of Expense over Income	...	...	...	18,009	49		
				81,010	35		
<i>Less: Capital Expenses:</i>							
Manuscripts and Books	...	Rs. 848	nP. 87	...			
Furniture	...	30	07	...			
		878	94	...			
Less: Sale of Manuscripts and Books	...	589	06	...			
				289	88		
<i>Capital Fund:</i>						80,720	47
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,89,167	90		
Add Capital Expenses	...	...	...	289	88		
						1,89,457	78
<i>Building Fund:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,34,893	49		
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	27,880	12		
				1,62,773	61		
Less Expenses	...	...	...	325	00		
						1,62,448	61
<i>Publications Fund:</i>							
As per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...		17,814	72
<i>Gratuities Reserve:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	11,600	49		
Additions during the year	...	...	...	1,500	00		
				13,100	49		
Less Payments during the year	...	...	...	224	70		
						12,875	79
<i>Book Deposit:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,671	00		
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	420	00		
				2,091	00		
Less Refunds	...	...	...	180	00		
						1,911	00
Reserve for Purchase of Books	...	...	...	...		1,000	00
<i>Donations Box:</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...		986	04
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...		1,900	08
Suspense Account	...	...	...	...		6	00
						4,69,120	49

ADYAR

21st December, 1959

For The Theosophical Society,  
 EDWIN N. LORD,  
 Hony. Treasurer

## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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ADYAR LIBRARY AS ON 30-9-59

PROPERTY AND ASSETS						Rs.	nP.	Rs.	nP.
<i>Manuscripts and Books:</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	...	1,50,202	00		
Add Additions during the year	...	...	...	...	...	848	87		
						<u>1,51,050</u>	<u>87</u>		
Less Sales	...	...	...	...	...	589	06	1,50,461	81
<i>Furniture:</i>									
Original Value as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	...	34,541	04		
Add Purchases during the year	...	...	...	...	...	30	07		
						<u>34,571</u>	<u>11</u>		
Less Depreciation to date:									
		Rs.	nP.						
Up to last year	6,835	55	...	...	...				
For the year	860	00	...	...	...				
						<u>7,695</u>	<u>55</u>		
								26,875	56
Stock of Publications on hand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29,182	34
Prepaid Fire Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140	83
Stock of Insecticides, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,427	66
Sundry Debtors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	390	56
Cash on hand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	00
Due by the T.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,60,571	73

Examined and found correct,  
M. K. DANDEKER & CO.,  
*Chartered Accountants.*

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

BUDGET ESTIMATE—INCOME AND EXPENSE  
ACCOUNT FOR 1959-'60

EXPENSE	Actuals for 1958-'59	Budget for 1959-'60	INCOME	Actuals for 1958-'59	Budget for 1959-'60
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
To Salaries and Wages ...	25,888	25,000	By T.S. Contribution ...	5,000	5,000
„ Repairs, Lighting, Water and Conservancy ...	1,019	1,000	„ Adyar Day Allocation and other Donations ...	2,005	2,000
„ Postages ...	1,077	1,100	„ Interest on Endowments ...	5,848	5,900
„ Printing and Stationery ...	2,299	2,400	„ Miscellaneous Receipts ...	948	1,000
„ Fire Insurance ...	211	200	„ Publications Account ...	2,660	3,000
„ Miscellaneous ...	1,617	1,700			
„ Reserve for Gratuities ...	1,500	1,500			
„ „ Depreciation ...	860	900			
	34,471	33,800		16,461	16,900
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>			„ Deficit ...	18,299	17,900
„ Purchase of Books, Manuscripts and Journals ...	259	500			
„ Furniture ...	30	500			
	34,760	34,800		34,760	34,800
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>					
„ Brahma Vidya ...	4,000				
„ Manikana ...	3,000				
„ Saiva Upanishads ...	3,000				
	10,000				

SEETHA NEELAKANTAN,  
*Librarian.*



REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES  
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES, OF  
FEDERATION SECRETARIES AND  
OF PRESIDENTIAL AGENTS

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These reports in some instances have been translated  
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the  
Recording Secretary.

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## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The annual report of our National Society's activities during the past year rightly begins with the first major event, which was the annual Convention and Summer School of 1958, held at Olcott last July. The President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, and Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram, as well as Miss Clara Codd were with us for an outstandingly successful Convention.

Another special Theosophical gathering later in the year was the National Theosophical Conference held in Los Angeles, Thanksgiving weekend, and reported in the January *American Theosophist*. The Conferences have become annual events comparable in important ways to the annual Conventions. This fourth National Conference with its carefully planned programme, and with Miss Codd as featured guest, was well attended, the official registration being 275. Such Theosophical assemblies created by major effort and held at points far distant from one another have a particular significance in that they make widely evident the vitality of the Society and the direction in which the work is moving. Public interest in Theosophy is also indicated by attendance at the public lectures always featured in these programmes.

**Field Activities.**—Presentations of Theosophy through lectures and classes have continued throughout the Section in most of the Lodges this year. Miss Clara Codd with great courage and tireless energy has toured the Section from coast to coast attracting unusual audiences despite the physical handicaps that attend one of her years. The reports upon her work have repeatedly expressed highest appreciation for her talks charged with wisdom,

sincerity and common sense. Her latest visit to America has been her greatest, and our gratitude goes out to her for her splendid work among us this past year.

Except for an abbreviated Spotlight programme in the Northwest Federation in the autumn, the regular Spotlight programme has come to an end. It will have a rebirth in Florida this coming year under the title, "Regional Expansion Programme" which I will refer to later in this report. Eunice and Felix Layton have spent most of the year in regular lecture work. In addition to areas throughout the U.S.A., where formerly Spotlight programmes have been held by them, their tours included the Canadian cities of Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria. In March they concluded their work in this country, taking up their plans for visiting other Sections of the Society, ultimately reaching India for attendance at the School of the Wisdom at Adyar during the coming season.

In the autumn the National President and Mrs. Perkins attended the Michigan Federation gathering in Detroit, the Illinois-Wisconsin Federation in Milwaukee, as well as visiting several of the Lodges in the Southern California area when they were there in December. In the spring their itinerary took them to Lodges in the Northeast and Eastern cities and to the Texas Federation Convention in Austin and the Gulf Coast Federation gathering at Gulfport.

It has been the Society's good fortune that during the past year the Vice-President, Dr. Henry Smith, has found it possible to accept speaking engagements in some of the Lodges, together with

attendance at various Federation meetings. His lectures have been well received and his contribution to the field work much appreciated.

Miss Joy Mills, during the year, visited Lodges on her way to the National Theosophical Conference in California, giving public and members' talks in Kansas City, Tulsa, Tucson and Phoenix, and a members' talk in Glendale. The National Secretary, Miss Caroline Tess, joined her in Tucson and they gave joint members' talks in that city and in Phoenix, as well as conferring with the members in these cities where the Lodges are relatively new. In May, Miss Mills was invited to be the guest speaker at the Canadian Federation Convention in Calgary, and following this she visited Minneapolis Lodge on her return trip to Olcott, speaking to both members and public in that city. In addition to these travels Miss Mills has given lectures in the Chicago area, as well as in Michigan.

Added to these activities sponsored from Headquarters, some of our National Directors have visited Lodges in their districts and elsewhere. Among these, Mrs. Irene Durham has managed to include a number of engagements along the way from Seattle to Olcott and Mr. Sam Wylie and Mr. Dent Watson have visited various localities in their districts. In addition to these, almost all of the 15 Federations have held special conferences and Conventions and where possible these were attended by Miss Codd, or Mrs. Perkins and myself.

*Radio.*—During the year Theosophy has been broadcast over stations in Ann Arbor (under the auspices of the Michigan Federation); in Meridian, Mississippi; Miami and Orlando, Florida; in Oxnard and Santa Maria, California; and in Tacoma, Washington; on a 52 week basis. While Trenton, New Jersey, has presented a 39 week series, and Austin,

Texas, Billings, Montana, and New Orleans, Louisiana, each have presented programmes for 26 weeks; Eugene, Oregon and Riverside, California (sponsored by the Southern California Federation), presented a 13 week series. At Cornell University in Ithaca, the university station and a new student FM station have broadcast the new comparative religion series. I should add here that a major accomplishment of Radio Theosophy and the National Radio Committee during the past year has been the completion of the scripts on comparative religions. The Foundation for Radio Theosophy has continued its splendid activity in the distribution of tapes for radio broadcasts and the script booklets. Mr. Clay Sanders, who has been so very helpful in the work of the Foundation, has been appointed Broadcast Director, and Mrs. Arleen Heintz, who is assuming increasing responsibility in the radio work, is now Assistant Secretary for the Foundation. It is noted, too, that foreign interest in Radio Theosophy continues to grow.

*Membership Department.*—Although our overall activities, except for the Spotlight programme, have been in full operation this year, not as many members have joined the Society as did the year before. There was also an increase in the number of those who have become inactive. Last summer's report gave the total number of active members as 4,565. This year the total has dropped to 4,521. Only one new Lodge has been added and four inactive Lodges were dissolved. The number of Lodges at present totals 148.

Several factors may be looked to as being partly responsible for the membership roll not increasing as usual. There is the fact that during the past ten years the Spotlight programme has been the major promotional activity directed from Headquarters each year, deliberately aimed at forming new Lodges and



increasing the Society's membership. With that programme becoming inactive this year, it was expected that there would be a decrease in the number of new members joining.

*The Theosophical Community Project.*—Because the idea of a Theosophical Community has appeared repeatedly and because of Mrs. Ruth Wilson's initiative in promoting a particular plan for such a project, which had been outlined by her at the last Summer Sessions, a brochure explaining her proposals and printed by her was permitted circulation to the membership. The mailing of this information to all the members, it was believed, would register in any event the extent of interest of the members in such a venture. Mrs. Wilson's appeal for funds to invest in the establishment of a Theosophical Community at Ojai, although evoking a fine response, did not afford sufficient support to continue that particular project. All deposits held as an accommodation by the Society were later returned to the depositors, as promised. As agreed by the Board, a committee of five members under the Chairmanship of Mr. Sidney A. Cook, was appointed by the National President to investigate various sites in California that were believed available for this purpose. The committee's thorough investigation and full report was rendered to the Board and was published in the June number of *The American Theosophist*.

*Olcott Foundation.*—The Olcott Foundation has received five lecture entries. During the current season, the Chairman of the Olcott Foundation Committee, Miss Bertha Roberts, has reported that the judges have selected for the lecture award, "Our Birth is But a Sleep" by Dr. Alvin B. Kuhn. Honorable mention went to Mrs. Florence H. Kramer for her entry, "The Triune Powers".

*The Education Department.*—Miss Joy Mills reports that the department has continued to offer Lodges fresh programme material and aid with programme planning. Audio-visual aids continue to be the most popular features offered by the department. The popularity of this medium is shown by the increase in number of taped lectures borrowed.

Among the most important activities of the Education Department is the annual Workshop period, held at Olcott. A special feature was the devoting of several sessions to a Research Seminar. Methods of research were discussed, and a research problem developed.

A project initiated by the Research Division is the compilation of a *Theosophical Research Glossary*. The first stage has been completed and the *Glossary* format with its first pages was issued last fall. It contains several papers prepared by various members of this division. Sixty-three copies have been sold to date and complimentary copies have been sent to Research Centres in England, New Zealand and the Netherlands.

Considerable correspondence goes out also from the Education Department, including listings of study courses which are available for purchase and letters to Lodges making better known the assistance available to them from this department.

*National Library.*—Membership in the Library has increased this year and the number of books borrowed remained high. Through the National Library our literature goes to all parts of the country and in many areas where there are no Lodges or study groups. About 1,900 Reading Lists have been sent out this year on request.

*Department of Information.*—This department reaches many inquirers, advising them of the various avenues of Theosophical information available to them,



such as the National Library, the correspondence courses, the publicity leaflets, the free lending library which the Department of Information maintains for those who are unable to pay the \$3 annual fee required at the National Library. Many are directed to Lodges and contact with fellow members who can be of assistance to them.

The department's head reports that in her seven year period, just completed, there has been a total increase of 444 new members as a result of contact with this department. The amount of correspondence, books, innumerable leaflets—about 12,000 this year—that go out to members and non-members have proven this entrance to Theosophical teachings—the Department of Information—to be a valuable and rewarding avenue of assistance.

*The American Theosophist.*—Every effort is made to keep *The American Theosophist* (principal organ of communication in the Section) reaching the entire membership, representative of member interest and of the Section's many activities. The Advisory Committee has continued to serve in reviewing original manuscripts submitted for publication in the magazine. However, fewer manuscripts have been received this year. There is continued need for good, original articles on Theosophy, its practical applications, its correlations with modern thought, and other aspects of Theosophical philosophy. The editorial board welcomes manuscripts for review and suggestions as to ways in which contributions may be encouraged.

*Discovery.*—The leaflet *Discovery* continues to be useful. Eighty thousand copies, some 4,000 less than last year, were distributed through 82 Lodges, in addition to the Federations and individuals who are mailing it. The Canadian Federation also continues to distribute 3,600 copies.

#### *The Theosophical Order of Service.*—

Mrs. Lois Holmes, National Director of the T.O.S., reports that there was a growing interest during the past year in the T.O.S. fields of service. Camp Kolorinthou had been the biggest project in the Social Service Department until the recent appeal for assistance to the Tibetan refugees, which was met with immediate response and sympathy. There have been personal contacts and correspondence with people in prison and attention has been given to the drive for abolishment of capital punishment with cards of protest where the issue has come up. In connection with Animal Welfare support has been given to the Animal Crusaders, Inc. in Washington and Arizona in support of bills such as humane slaughter of animals and the Wilderness Bill for preservation and conservation of natural resources. In the Peace Department, U. S. magazines continue to be sent abroad, and the Besant, Hollywood T.O.S. workers assist with work at the United Nations office in Los Angeles. The Healing Department is attracting special interest from individuals—both vegetarian and non-vegetarian. In support of this particular phase of the T.O.S. is the Division of Music which is focussing its attention upon music therapy. Over 21,000 pamphlets were sent out by the To-Those-Who-Mourn Group. The Espana Group of the T.O.S. is giving assistance to this Section by translating Theosophical articles, etc., into Spanish for Latin and South American groups. Some new material from the T.O.S. is now available, such as a new handbook, a new leaflet for the Division of Music and one for Social Service.

#### *Parents' Theosophical Research Group.*—

The Parents' Theosophical Research Group is now celebrating its 25th anniversary. This activity has been sustained by the efforts of many helpers throughout

the Section and is continuing its fine work of bringing knowledge and inspiration to parents, and the sharing of experiences and ideas in rearing children.

In honor of their 25th anniversary, there has been issued a supplement to the Spring-Summer Bulletin, which describes the many booklets that have been published and are for sale—including issues from Christmas 1952 and mimeographed leaflets on Motherhood.

Their regular magazine once known as the "Mothers Occult Digest" and by other titles is now named "Parents Bulletin." It is attractively set up and serves usefully in conveying to its readers Theosophical interpretations of the significance of birth and parenthood and the education of children. The work of this group is carried on through volunteer help, some of it being mothers with very young children to care for. More and more young couples are writing expressions of appreciation, and there is much interest shown for this work by readers in the British Isles, Australia and New Zealand.

*The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.*—Mrs. Flavia Snyder, before departing in February for Pakistan for one year, reported that the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind lending library of over 800 volumes, which serves the U. S. and Canada, has circulated 809 volumes during the year. The "Braille Star Theosophist" which carries the message of Theosophy to over 700 subscribers has continued as a free bi-monthly Braille magazine. The Spanish Braille Magazine has happily increased its circulation from 75 to 140 copies during the year. Books are still being sent to the Braille Department at Adyar Library. The Talking Book Department of soundsciber records has added 72 new books on records and has circulated 646 books in this medium during the past

year. The Tape Recording Department has circulated 439 lectures on tapes to 15 readers who prefer this medium, thus opening up an important avenue for this work, since tapes are clearer than soundsciber recordings. News was received from the General Secretary of the South African Section to the effect that they are planning a Braille Department of their Library. The T.B.A.B. has already responded by sending books to the South African Section and hopes to continue to do so as more books become available for dispatch. This, of course, necessitates additional work for the staff of T.B.A.B., since all books are copied by hand and three copies are now required of beginner books instead of one. Many letters of appreciation are received for this work from all over the world, which is very heartwarming.

*Young Theosophists.*—Mr. Avard Colby, President of the Young Theosophists, reports that contact has been maintained with members of the Y.T.'s throughout the Section via the newsletter "Young Theosophical Thoughts." The Y.T.'s of Milwaukee and Ann Arbor, Michigan, met twice during the year. Twenty-five Y.T. members attended the Michigan-Ohio Federation at Ann Arbor in August. In November the movie "Jai-Hind" shown by Dr. Richard Chesrow was sponsored by the Milwaukee Y.T.'s and the proceeds went to Ann Arbor Youth Camp. In November Mr. Avard Colby attended the National Theosophical Conference in Los Angeles contacting some of the California Young Theosophists.

*Closing of Report.*—I cannot close this annual report of achievements without also glancing forward toward the future. I remind the membership that the year ahead is an election year, both nationally and internationally, and that as your National President I have served in office since 1945. Although heretofore I have

been willing to continue in office as it has been made clear that my duty lay in that direction, I now feel clear that a change should be considered. A new president who will preserve the continuity of the work, conserving the values gained and bringing his new vision to the work will contribute fresh vitality and growth to the Society.

It is with heartfelt appreciation that I express thanks for the opportunity to

serve with all of my colleagues, both on the Board of Directors and upon the Staff at Olcott, as well as with all our co-workers throughout the Section, the members known and unknown who together make up the band of Theosophists in this Section, who uphold and promote so valiantly the work of the Theosophical Society.

JAMES S. PERKINS,  
*General Secretary.*

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## ENGLAND

During the year membership has still declined, though the actual rate of loss appears to have slowed down. It will only be after the New Year, when a certain number lapse automatically, that proper figures will be available. But on September 30th this year we numbered 2,736 (to the same date, 1958: 2,789), 105 (as against 108) Lodges and 20 (as against 21) Centres. There is, however, a certain sense of movement within the Section, as if a new current was beginning to flow and a certain apathy was getting less. This is difficult to assess or to define, but I feel that there is a healthy tone underlying the Section (and the Society as a whole), a sobriety and steadiness, which is better far than the excitement and sensationalism which some of the older members will remember only too well from pre-war days.

During the year the Section was visited by the President, whose presence is always not only very welcome, but also stimulating; by Mr. Boris de Zirkoff, who gave a most interesting talk at Headquarters and left a happy personal impression; by Lt.-Col. Thomson, General Secretary of the Canadian Section; by Miss Clara Codd, who spent a week at the Summer School; by Mr. Seymour Ballard, who spent some

time in England during which he lectured in many places; by Baron Axel von Fielitz-Coniar, who is lecturing in the London area; as well as by many other transient visitors on their way to or from Adyar—Miss Ann Kerr, Miss Caroline Tess, and others.

The annual Convention was, as usual, held at Whitsuntide. The Blavatsky Lecture was given, partly *viva voce*, partly recorded on a tape, by Mr. E. L. Gardner, this being the third time he has done so—a record, and, moreover, the first time it has been given by one over 90 years of age. The Summer School of the Section was held in August and lasted two weeks, the first being led by the President, while Miss Codd was present in the second; and many other members, too numerous to list, gave their services in one capacity or another. Moreover, though it was an English Sectional School, it had a strong international flavour, having members from America, Sweden, Finland, Austria, India, Switzerland, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The Research Centre continues its work and enlarges its international contacts, as well as having held weekends at Camberley, Liverpool and Bristol. It has published a full-sized book, *The*

*Mystery of Healing.* The Science Group Journal continues its informal course and circulates not only well outside England but also outside the Society.

Tekels Park, Camberley, continues to have study weekends.

The Headquarters Library reports that 6,200 books were exchanged in the year, again a shrinkage. This can be accounted for partly by the high cost of postage, and also by the fact that books on Theosophical subjects are so much more widely available in public libraries.

The Publicity Department arranged 35 lecture tours and has printed several new leaflets. Three "At Homes" were arranged, to which non-members as well as members were invited to hear speakers from other organizations. These were Mr. Mario Montessori; Mrs. Goldney (of the Society for Psychical Research); and Mr. P. W. Martin (author of *Experiment in Depth*). Continued use has been made of tape-recorded lectures, of which some 130 are available.

During the year the loss by death of several good workers occurred, among

them Mr. Henry S. L. Polak, Mr. C. R. Groves, and Mrs. M. Bignold.

The Theosophical Publishing House, now entirely owned by the English Theosophical Trust, has published: *Whence Come the Gods*, by E. L. Gardner (Blavatsky Lecture 1959); *Vivisection in the Light of the Law of Karma*, by A. B. Crow; *The Pyramids and Stonehenge* (reprinted) by A. P. Sinnett; *The Mystery of Healing*, by the Medical Group of the Research Centre.

The Benevolent Fund has now been legally incorporated as a charitable trust, capable of holding funds and receiving tax-free dividends. It is hoped gradually to build up an endowment fund, though not at the expense of meeting calls for help.

The General Secretary and Sir Hugh Sykes, Bt., represented the Section at the European Federation Congress at Hamburg. The General Secretary and Mrs. Bendit also spent four weeks touring the Scandinavian Sections.

L. J. BENDIT,  
General Secretary.

## INDIA

The year under report has been marked by steady progress in all the various constituent units of the Indian Section.

The work of a movement like the Theosophical Society cannot be evaluated merely in terms of its numerical strength. It is a recognized fact that a very large number of people in all countries have derived strength and inspiration from the vast literature of the Theosophical Society and that an equally large number of people have been enabled to discover for themselves a living philosophy of life because of their contact with Theosophical idealism. Thus, the influence of

Theosophy extends far and wide and is not confined to the membership of the Theosophical Society only. As one travels in different parts of the country, one realizes how people everywhere respond with great enthusiasm to the approach of life which Theosophy presents. There is a clear indication that more and more people are eager to understand what Theosophy has to say with regard to the problems of life which baffle men and women of all races and religions.

There is one question which is asked again and again by people and that is: What is the practical work that the



Theosophical Society is doing? The word "practical" is, of course, very vague. The meaning and content of that word are bound to differ from individual to individual. However, there is a general feeling that practical work implies the conducting of institutions for social, economic and educational welfare of the people. Practical work seems to be associated with the producing of tangible results. Those who do not produce tangible results are very often regarded as people who are not practical. Institutions are certainly most tangible and therefore, the starting and conducting of institutions are the accepted yardsticks with which to measure the practicality or otherwise of a particular movement. Now, Theosophists in India have been conducting many educational and charitable institutions in this country. And so even by institutional standards Theosophists need not be declared as impractical people.

It has, however, to be remembered that in this age there are countless institutions aspiring to work for the social, economic and educational welfare of the people. They have done and are doing admirable work. And yet all this institutional effort seems to have left "something" untouched which apparently has created a strange paradox in our age, that of increasing unhappiness in the midst of increasing comfort!

The Theosophical Society while appreciating all efforts at institutional change has been concerned supremely with the problem of the transformation of the human mind. A nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity cannot be formed unless and until those who comprise such a nucleus have come to the experience of a new functioning possibility of the mind. To regard this as not practical is to give a very narrow meaning to the term "practical work". The Second and the Third Objects of the

Theosophical Society indicate to us the lines along which we can move so as to come to the experience of a new functioning level of the human mind. Thus, the Theosophical Society is engaged in an intensely practical work inasmuch as it is concerned with the transformation of the human mind which alone can pour right content into social, economic and educational institutions.

*The President.*—The President was able to pay visits to Varanasi, Delhi, Agra, Bhopal, Bombay, Hyderabad and Bangalore during the year. He presided over the Karnataka Federation which was held at Bangalore and the Telugu Federation held at Hyderabad as also the South India Theosophical Conference held at Adyar. He also inaugurated the Indian Section Convention which was held at Varanasi in December 1958. He was accompanied at these places by Srimati Bhagirathi.

*The General Secretary.*—The General Secretary and Srimati Shridevi Mehta during the year visited Patna, Allahabad, Hyderabad, Kurnool, Nandyal, Mehmoodabad, Adoni, Bombay, Jodhpur, Gwalior, Mathura, Delhi, Madras, Ahmedabad, and Himmatnagar Lodges. The General Secretary presided over the annual Federation sessions of Madhya-Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarati Federations. He also presided over the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Gwalior Lodge.

The General Secretary and Srimati Shridevi Mehta were invited during the year by the East African Section to tour their Section. They carried on a lecture tour of 14 weeks during which they visited 23 places in Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Uganda and Kenya territories of the East African Section. The General Secretary was the chief guest at the East African Convention of the Theosophical Society which was held at Tanga in the



Tanganyika Territory. This lecture tour naturally strengthened the ties of friendship between the Indian and the East African Sections—the ties that were first formed in 1951 during their first lecture tour of the East African Section. We feel sure, in years to come, both these Sections will draw closer together as there is so much in common between the Indian and the East African Sections.

*National Lecturers.*—During the year the Executive Committee of the Indian Section appointed two National Lecturers under the Panda Baijnath Endowment Scheme instead of one as was done during previous years. The two National Lecturers were: Sri S. G. Venkataraman of Adyar and Sri S. N. Chowdhary of Varanasi.

Sri S. G. Venkataraman during the year visited 58 Lodges in Karnataka, Madras, Marathi, Tamil and Telugu Federations. He spent in all 89 days on tour during the year. In the course of his tour, he addressed meetings of Rotary Clubs and educational institutions over and above giving lectures under the auspices of Theosophical Lodges.

Sri S. N. Chowdhary presided over the Marathi Federation held at Amraoti and the Bengal Federation held at Calcutta. He also visited Cuttack, Bhuvaneshwar, Fategarh and Farukhabad.

*Other Lecturers.*—During the year Miss Georgina Boyd, the National Lecturer of the New Zealand Section, was able to visit a few Lodges of the Bombay, Karnataka, Madras and Tamil Federations. We are grateful to her for the help she gave to the Indian Section through her visits to different Lodges.

Mrs. M. R. Dhalla during the year visited Lodges of the Marathi and Gujarati Federations. For the last several years she has been helping these two Federations by her visits.

Sri M. Subramaniam, Sri R. Srinivasan, Dr. C. R. Kamath, Sri Shambhu Dayal and Sri Ramachandra Shukla during the year visited Lodges in the Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Bombay, Karnataka and Madras Federations.

*Passed Over.*—During the year 46 members of the Indian Section passed away. Among them special mention must be made of two members in the passing away of whom the Indian Section has sustained a very heavy loss. They are Sri G. N. Gokhale and Sri G. R. Venkatram.

Sri G. N. Gokhale passed away on 19th October 1959 at Poona after a long illness. He was the General Secretary of the Indian Section from 1936 to 1944—a period of nine years. His administration of the Indian Section imparted new strength and vitality to the work of the Theosophical Society in India. In his passing away the Theosophical Society has lost a devoted and selfless worker in the cause of Theosophy.

Sri G. R. Venkatram passed away on 31st March 1959. He came to the Indian Section Headquarters in 1946. For 12 years he devotedly worked for the Indian Section in a number of capacities—as Asst. General Secretary, as Treasurer, as Manager of the Bookshop and as Managing Editor of the Section journal. His death removes from the roll of the Indian Section a very cultured and refined member who gave all that he had unreservedly for the work of the Theosophical Society.

*Membership.*—We began the year with a membership of 7,090. During the year 749 new members joined the Indian Section, 170 lapsed members revived their memberships and 4 members were transferred from other Sections. As against this, 46 members died, 44 resigned, 2 members were transferred to other Sections and 759 members lapsed due to

non-payment of dues. Thus, at the close of the year our membership stands at 7,162—a net increase of 72 members.

*Lodges and Centres.*—We began the year with 408 Lodges. During the year the Gwalior Ladies' Lodge was dissolved. In the course of the year 8 dormant Lodges were revived, 3 Centres were raised to the position of Lodges and 14 new Lodges were formed. Thus, at the end of the year, there are 432 Lodges affiliated to the Indian Section.

*Young Workers.*—It is a matter of great happiness to note that in most of the Federations young workers are coming up to shoulder the responsibility of Theosophical work both at Federation and Lodge levels. This indicates the vitality of our movement and is an assurance of its continuity.

*The Telugu Federation.*—The most important event of the year has been the amalgamation of the Andhra and Rayalaseema Federations to form one Federation—known as the Telugu Federation. This is a bold experiment as the Telugu Federation covers a very wide area with 105 Lodges and 18 Centres and a membership of over 1,600. The whole of the Indian Section will watch with great interest the growth of the Telugu Federation—the giant among the Federations of the Indian Section.

*Camps and Conferences.*—During the year only one Regional Study Camp was held and that was for the southern zone in Adyar. However, a number of Study Camps were held in various Federations, not on Regional but on Federation and district levels. Such Camps were held in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarati, Karnataka and Telugu Federations. These Study Camps are becoming more and more a part of our Theosophical work in India.

During the Easter weekend a South India Theosophical Conference was held

at Adyar as usual and it was presided over by Bro. N. Sri Ram.

*The South Indian Tourist Party.*—An event that attracted much attention of Theosophists and non-Theosophists in North India was the South Indian Theosophical Tourist Party which conducted a very successful tour of North India. This party of 39 Theosophists, belonging to various Theosophical Lodges of South India carried on this tour in two special railway carriages which were hired by them for the purpose. During their travels they visited a large number of places, met important personages belonging to different walks of life, addressed Theosophical and other meetings and did extensive sight-seeing.

*Department of Studies.*—During the year a new activity was initiated in the Indian Section and that was the starting of a Department of Studies at the Section Headquarters for the benefit of Federations, Lodges and individual members throughout the Section. Some literature on the Department of Studies was sent out to workers in different Federations. This consisted of (1) A General Outline of the Work of the Department of Studies, (2) A Syllabus of Study and (3) A Descriptive List of Books.

We have received a very encouraging response from workers and students from different parts of the country and so we have no doubt that the Department of Studies will supply an urgent need with reference to Theosophical work at various levels.

*Education Week.*—During the year under report Education Week was celebrated by a large number of Lodges of the Indian Section. The purpose of this week was to focus the attention of the people on the fundamentals of Education and to place before the country a Theosophical approach to Education. The celebration was very successful,

nearly 100 Lodges having organized the week in their towns and villages.

*The Theosophical Review* is the most effective means of contact between the Section Headquarters and individual members. It comes out regularly every month and has gained much in popularity in recent years. This is evidenced by the increasing enquiries we receive at the Section Headquarters with reference to the journal. It is also evidenced by the fact that we receive a large number of manuscripts containing original articles for publication.

*The Section Headquarters.*—The work at the Section Headquarters has gone on well, its numerous activities continuing as usual. The Executive Committee of the Indian Section met eight times during the year. At its meeting held on 1st February 1959, Sri Harprasad was elected as Treasurer of the Indian Section for the year 1959. During my absence from the Headquarters, as also from India due to the East African tour, Sri Harprasad acted for me as officiating General Secretary. I wish to express my sense of gratefulness to him for undertaking this additional burden along with

his heavy duties as Treasurer of the Indian Section.

*Conclusion.*—Our work will be vital only to the extent to which we have a contact with living Truth. If the background of our language and of our work is only a collection of mental concepts then they will lack strength and vitality. Thus, the effectiveness of our work depends upon the contact with living Truth which our individual members have.

A Lodge is certainly the most important unit of our work from a structural standpoint. But from a functional point of view, it is the individual with a contact with living Truth who is the most vital unit of our Theosophical work throughout the world. It is such an individual who will be able, with his new functioning quality, to impart an organic unity to different structures of Theosophical work whether at the Lodge, Federation, Section or International level.

May we be enabled in the coming year to move towards this vitalization of Theosophical work so that we may utter a language appropriate to the age in which we live.

ROHIT MEHTA,  
General Secretary.

## AUSTRALIA

The year has been an active one for the Australian Section and we have been fortunate to have had four overseas speakers who have visited various Lodges and stimulated the work considerably.

Mr. John Coats of England, now General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe, made a brief tour early in the year, and Lodges were glad to welcome him back to their platforms after an absence of nine years. Commencing in Sydney on February 15th,

Mr. Coats visited in turn Newcastle, Melbourne, Ballarat and Adelaide. On his return journey, he spent a few days again in Melbourne and Sydney. He gave several lectures in Brisbane and also made a visit to Toowoomba. His wife, Mrs. Betsan Coats, has also spoken for Brisbane Lodge.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson spent seven weeks in Australia, giving lectures both in Sydney and Brisbane. During the last week of his stay, he devoted many hours

to recording lectures on tape, and these have proved to be very popular.

At the end of June we welcomed Mrs. Eunice and Mr. Felix Layton of U.S.A., who spent two months in the Section en route to India. They gave joint lectures in Sydney, Melbourne, Ballarat and Perth. In addition, Mrs. Eunice Layton travelled to Brisbane and Toowoomba, and Mr. Felix Layton visited Newcastle, Launceston, Latrobe and Adelaide. Their tour was most valuable and helpful, and everywhere they attracted very good audiences.

*The Annual Convention* of the Section was held at the attractive premises of Brisbane Lodge at Easter time, with Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Mr. John Coats as guest speakers. Many felt that it was an outstanding occasion. Following Convention, there was a very successful residential Easter School, at Elston Guest House, Montville, Queensland, high on the Blackall Range. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Mr. John Coats were again guest speakers, and about fifty members participated.

*General Secretary.*—Miss Helen V. Zahara, former Recording Secretary of the International Society, was re-elected for a third term of office as General Secretary. She was ably assisted in her work by Mrs. V. Bradley, Assistant General Secretary.

During the year Miss Zahara again undertook lecture tours, concentrating mainly in the Queensland area, with visits to Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns and Atherton. She also made a trip to Melbourne and Ballarat.

*Field Work.*—In May, Mr. Brian Parry of Sydney, a Young Theosophist and member of the Section Council, offered his services for work in Tasmania. He took temporary employment and stayed three months, assisting greatly the Laun-

ceston Lodge and a group in Latrobe. He also visited Hobart and Queenstown. His work was much appreciated.

Another visitor to Tasmania was Mrs. Alice McKenzie of Melbourne Lodge, who spent two weeks there and whose talks were very helpful. Mr. Charles Hankin, Secretary of Melbourne Lodge, made regular visits to Ballarat and various members have paid visits to other Lodges and helped in their programmes.

*Lodges.*—An important event was the welcoming of the new Isis Lodge in Sydney. This Lodge consists of persons who were formerly members of the independent Sydney Theosophical Society, who have now joined the Australian Section. A special gathering was held on 11th March when the General Secretary presented the Charter to the new Lodge and diplomas to the founding members.

The total number of Lodges in the Section at the end of September was 19. The Lodges generally continued with their regular activities and programmes.

*Expansion Programme.*—Various projects undertaken as part of the programme to assist Lodges with their activities were continued. Particularly popular as already mentioned have been the half-hour lectures on tape recorded by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson. The illustrated study course by Mr. Paul Bauereis of U.S.A. (script accompanied by slides) was used by several Lodges, and an elementary study course was also followed. A further study course from U.S.A. was produced by the Section Office at low cost. The pamphlets and leaflets stocked by the Section Headquarters were increased in range, and several titles were imported from the American Section, to whom we are grateful for the help and co-operation received. Programmes for anniversaries and material in the slide and tape libraries continued to be available.



*Broadcasting.*—The Section continues to conduct a weekly session from Station 2GB in Sydney, with a varied programme. Melbourne Lodge sponsors a weekly session from 3TR Sale, Victoria, which covers a wide area.

*Section Journal.*—*Theosophy in Australia* is published every two months, and is edited by the General Secretary.

*Membership.*—The total membership is 1,240, an increase of 2. Twenty-nine members passed on during the year.

*Indo-Pacific Conference.*—The Section is promoting an international conference to be held at Wallacia, near Sydney, from December 31st 1959 to January 9th 1960. During this year a great deal of effort has been centred in plans for the conference, and it is hoped that it will be a very fine and successful gathering.

*Young Theosophists.*—Groups in the larger Lodges continue to be active. At Christmas time a Summer School was conducted at Mylor in the Mt. Lofty Ranges, near Adelaide. The Young Theosophists have their own journal, *Fraternity*.

*The Theosophical Order of Service.*—The annual meeting of the Order during Convention in Brisbane was held at the Hospice, the home for elderly ladies conducted by the T. O. S. in Brisbane for the Lodge. Reports were received

from different groups indicating that some very fine social service in various fields of activity had been done. Mr. John Coats spoke of the work being carried on in Europe. During the year Mr. N. Sri Ram, as Head of the Theosophical Order of Service, appointed Mrs. Winifred McKenzie of Sydney as new Director of the Order in Australia.

*General.*—The vast distances in this country and the isolation of most of the Lodges make it very difficult to co-ordinate the work, but continued emphasis is placed on the development of a Section consciousness, and the Section's link with the larger whole of our international movement. Here in Australia, history is in the making, for we are watching the growth of our young nation with the arrival of thousands of migrants from different parts of Europe. Many heterogeneous elements are being blended together, pointing toward the emergence of a new racial type, long ago spoken of in Theosophical circles. As this country moves forward with tremendous strides, there is a great opportunity and need for the work of our Society and a challenge for the members in Australia to make it more effective through our united efforts.

HELEN V. ZAHARA,  
General Secretary.

## SWEDEN

During the year the work in the Section has been carried on as usual. Besides members' meetings many of the Lodges have also arranged public lectures. Lecturers from the Headquarters have frequently visited provincial Lodges and *vice versa*. On these occasions both private and public meetings have been held. In this connection may be men-

tioned the visits to the capital by Dr. Hegardt, prominent scholar and a member of long standing, who gave a series of lectures, and also, as in other years, addressed the members on November 17th.

This year we have been very happy to receive several visitors from abroad. The well-known Theosophist Mr. Boris de



Zirkoff visited Sweden in May when public and private meetings were arranged in Stockholm and Gothenburg. On White Lotus Day he addressed the members at the Headquarters.

At the end of June the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, came to Stockholm for our annual Convention when he talked to the members. The following week he presided over and was the chief speaker at our Summer School. Each of his lectures was followed by a study group in Swedish on the same subject, a method which we found very satisfactory. It is needless to say that the week became a deep and memorable experience for all taking part.

As part of an extensive tour Dr. and Mrs. L. J. Bendit travelled in Sweden in September giving interesting lectures and talks both in the capital and the provinces. Bishop Otto Viking from Denmark spent a very happy week in Stockholm at the beginning of November, lecturing at different gatherings.

During the year one Lodge has been dissolved, the number of Lodges now being 13. Thirty-two new members have been admitted, which means an increase of seven members, the Section now counting 389 members in all.

EVA OSTELIUS,  
*General Secretary.*

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## NEW ZEALAND

At the annual Convention in December 1958 Miss Clarice E. Gregory was re-elected as General Secretary. The offices of Assistant General Secretary and National Lecturer had to be left vacant in the absence of suitable voluntary workers. This has thrown the burden of the greater part of the office work again on to the shoulders of the General Secretary, and has prevented her from visiting all the Lodges during the year.

*Overseas Lecturers.*—During the year we had two visits from overseas lecturers. Mr. John Coats, who spent four weeks in this country, was cordially welcomed by his old friends as he visited the main Lodges. Mr. Felix Layton and Mrs. Eunice Layton, who spent six weeks in our Section on their way to Adyar and Europe, were most warmly welcomed wherever they went. Their clear and simple presentation of the basic truths of Theosophy proved very popular and equally stimulating. Their visit was a

valuable contribution to the work in New Zealand.

*Membership.*—The membership roll is now 1,019 a decrease of 47 during the year. We have admitted 51 new members, 6 have rejoined and 2 were transferred, while 16 members died, 48 were removed from the rolls and 10 were transferred to other Sections. Many of the members, particularly in the smaller Lodges, are growing older and can no longer carry the burden of the work. Invercargill Lodge members decided to return the Charter as the few remaining in the town were unable to continue Lodge activities.

*Theosophy in New Zealand.*—The Section magazine continues to be issued three times a year to all members and subscribers.

*Newsletters.*—The monthly Newsletters sent from the General Secretary to all Lodges and to individual members who wish to have copies, continue to be popular with the smaller Lodges. It is

an opportunity to keep in touch with the Lodges and pass on any interesting local or overseas items. Some of the Lodges continue to issue their own newsletters regularly.

*Tape and Slide Library.*—This library is being used freely by Lodges and individual members. Some Lodges find the tape lectures attract the public more readily than lectures by local members. The librarians continue to add new titles to the catalogue. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson presented a set of talks to the library during the year, and some of his earlier talks have been recorded afresh.

*Book Library.*—The Section book lending library, although still quite small, is used regularly by a group of country members to whom the librarian posts the books they require.

*Legacies.*—During the year the Section has received £1,078 in legacies.

*Donations to Adyar.*—This year donations amounting to £306 (N. Z.) have been sent to Adyar for various funds. A special effort was made to increase the Adyar Day contributions, as the need for support of the International Headquarters was stressed during the Convention.

*The Young Theosophists* are active in some of the Lodges where they conduct their own programmes and assist the older members on any special occasions. They come and go, however, as they change their places of residence or their work.

*Vasanta Garden School* has now closed after 40 years of work. For some years it has been increasingly difficult to find suitable teachers, particularly those with a Theosophical background, and when the Principal resigned through illness early in the year, it was found impossible to replace her. The property, according to the Constitution of the

Theosophical Educational Trust Board, will now pass to the Section.

*Lodge Tours.*—During the year visiting lecturers were sent by Section Headquarters to the Lodges who wished to have them. As there was no National Lecturer appointed, several members from the various Lodges agreed to share this work. Mrs. J. Kronfeld and Miss C. Pollard visited the South Island Lodges, Miss G. Boyd some of the North Island Lodges, and Mrs. E. Marion Lavender spent several months conducting *Secret Doctrine* classes and lecturing in several North Island Lodges. Besides these short tours many of the Lodges arranged an exchange of lecturers among themselves, and the larger Lodges received visits from Mr. John Coats and Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton.

*The General Secretary* visited all the Lodges in the South Island during April, and several in the North Island in March. Her proposed tour of the North Island in September had to be abandoned owing to pressure of work in the office where the want of a permanent assistant still creates difficulties.

*General.*—The main difficulty in most of the smaller Lodges is the scarcity of younger members. The old faithful servers are continuing to be as active as possible but we need the younger ones to hold the torch and bear it onward. In the larger towns the lure of quick development of psychic powers promised by the travelling salesmen has attracted a certain type of member and accounted for the resignations of those not securely established in Theosophy, but as there is always a coming and a going we can only do our best by being prepared to aid any seekers for truth.

C. E. GREGORY,  
General Secretary.

## THE NETHERLANDS

Notwithstanding a substantial fall in the membership of our Section, the year under report has been one of promise and hope.

In December 1958 our former General Secretary resigned from office and the writer was charged with the honourable task of presiding over this Section. The work in the Lodges has gone on steadily, with fortnightly or weekly lectures and members' meetings. It was decided to try to improve upon the traditional practice by experimentally introducing a system of regional discussion groups, which members of Lodges and Centres in their neighbourhood can join. In this way we hope to stimulate the interest of the members and form a link of better understanding and mutual co-operation.

Much attention has been given to our monthly magazine with very heartening reactions. Our Publishing Department issued four books, being translations into the Dutch language of *The Awakening of the Intuition* by Mr. Hugh Shearman and Mr. L. Soper; *Transition* by Mr. Charles Hampton, *The Creative Silence* by Mr. Rohit Mehta and a reprint of *The Chakras* by Mr. C. W. Leadbeater. Before the end of the year 1959 another four books will be published. Moreover, we issued a pamphlet, especially for members, entitled "The Theosophical Worker," which is given free to every new member.

To requests received for speakers to address other groups of students, religious, social, scientific and philosophical, as well as from a broadcast organisation, we complied to the best of our ability, with gratifying results. Our Section had the benefit of the visit of two guest speakers from abroad. The first was the well-known collector of H.P.B.'s writings,

Mr. Boris de Zirkoff, who spoke at the Huizen Centre about "H.P.B. Today," at Amsterdam on "The Original Teachings of H.P.B. and the Occult Hierarchy" and at The Hague about "The Mystery of the Manasaputras". Very much appreciated were the lectures by our International President, Brother N. Sri Ram, at Amsterdam: "The Future of Humanity" and at the Hague: "The Path to Spiritual Reality"; on both occasions the large halls were crowded with interested people.

Our Summer School and Convention at Amersfoort were well attended and proceeded very satisfactorily. We devoted our study to *The Bhagavad Gita* with the morning meditations and the discussions coinciding.

At the annual meeting of the Theosophical Research Centre Professor Haas presented two youthful members, who lectured on their researches in occult chemistry, and he himself told something of the contribution of a Dutch member, now in the U.S.A., in the domain of metaphysics.

The membership of the Section has decreased and two Lodges have been closed. There were 60 admissions and a loss of 159 members by death, resignation or lapsing; our membership now stands at 1,542.

As the Centenary Jubilee of our Society is drawing near, we feel as if a new spirit is stirring from within. As in the autumn the leaves are falling, many members are leaving our ranks; but now the central trunk and the sturdy branches of our Society can be seen all the clearer. That central trunk is the mystical teaching of the Eternal Wisdom and in this Section we are experiencing a growing interest in the teachings of

spiritual mysticism, transcending the acquisitions of science, philosophy and religion, though accepting them all as a feeding-soil and a storehouse of

most valuable and indispensable information.

A. J. H. VAN LEEUWEN,  
*General Secretary.*

## FRANCE

The office of General Secretary of the French Section has been taken over only recently by the writer who is thus not able to give a full report of the activities in the past year.

The membership on 30th September 1959 was 1,203. There is not an increasing tendency; we do not seem to succeed to move deeply the world around us. Have we the level of efficiency that we ought to reach? Certainly. But probably there is also a question of a cycle that does not favour a visible gain.

The attendance at the lectures is not large except when the lecturer has his own special following. Though the work in some of the Lodges is rather slow we have some good workers who do their

best. It has been said that numbers are not of the first importance and that we should not look for the fruits of action. Our members are not downhearted and we intend to do what we can to keep the way open for a fresh impetus with which to increase the life of our Section.

Our Publishing House supplies literature on Theosophy for the reading public and the issuing of our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* continues.

We look forward to a more intimate co-operation with the Theosophical Society in Belgium and in Switzerland in every field, and especially in the matter of a joint magazine.

PAUL THORIN,  
*General Secretary.*

## ITALY

During the year the Italian Section had the honour of a visit from the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who was received with great joy by the members in Rome.

The forty-fifth Convention was held in Rome from 5th to 7th September inclusive; it was particularly successful with good discussions.

Seventy-seven new members joined during the year. Two new Lodges, Isis

in Trapani, and Amore e Pace in Torino were formed. Lodges Aum in Vigevano, Ipazia in Ostiglia, Fratellanza in S. Margherita and Vita Nova in Savona were dissolved.

The Section has 31 Lodges with a membership of 1,069.

GIUSEPPE FILIPPONIO,  
*General Secretary.*



## GERMANY

The methods of work of our German Lodges have been the same as in earlier years. There have been 19 incoming and 23 outgoing members making a total membership of 416.

As General Secretary I have been several times to Huizen for meetings of the Executive Committee of the Theosophical Society in Europe and for preparation of the European Congress in Hamburg; also to Basle in Switzerland for the yearly meeting of the German-speaking regional group, with Mr. van Dissel in the chair.

The chief work of our Section during the year under report has been the organisation of the European Congress with Mr. N. Sri Ram as its President of honour. It is not necessary to report that this event was a very great success, because detailed reports have been given

in the European Theosophical periodicals as well as in *The Theosophist*.

Our journal *Adyar*, issued by the German Section as the German regional paper, has a large number of subscribers who are not members of our Society and therefore fulfils one of its main purposes which is to spread Theosophical ideas to the public.

Our Publishing House in Graz in Austria published a new book, *The Voice of the Silence* and other selected Fragments taken from *The Book of the Golden Precepts*. It appeared in a very beautiful form and has a ready sale.

During the year I made several visits to Hamburg, my old field of activity, to help with the Theosophical work and to give lectures for members and friends.

MARTIN BOYKEN,  
General Secretary.

## CUBA

The earlier months of the year ending on September 30th 1959 were difficult for our Theosophical work, with the land ravaged by civil war and the people subjected to a most cruel tyranny. But with the coming into power of the Revolutionary Government on January 1st 1959, a new and auspicious period of activity opened for the Cuban Section.

It was in a spirit of eagerness to fully avail ourselves of the new conditions, that on January 18th 1959 we held our annual Convention at the city of Havana, at which I was elected the Section's National President for a term of three years, with Mr. Celestino Aguilar as the Vice-President.

New methods have been introduced in the work in the Section and results

are extremely encouraging. In order to encourage the Lodges in the interior of the Republic I have made weekend visits to Lodges in other towns, beginning with those in the Province of Oriente. The purpose has been accomplished so that out of the 21 existing Lodges there remain now only 3 Lodges to be visited in the whole country. The National Vice-President, Brother Aguilar, accompanied me on most of these tours together with members from Havana and elsewhere. All have shared in the work of lecturing and of strengthening the bonds of brotherhood with all these far-away Lodges and members.

A special Convention at Santiago de Cuba, the second city in the country, was held on June 13th and 14th. It was



a specially happy occasion, with a good attendance, many excellent speeches, and a fine atmosphere.

A member has been appointed as the National President's representative in each of the six Cuban Provinces, to visit frequently the Lodges in his area and to keep the National President informed of their conditions and their needs. As National President I make visits to the Lodges in the city of Havana, although this was somehow slightly neglected during the first part of the year.

To foster the feeling of brotherly closeness between the President and the Lodges, a monthly mimeographed letter, under the name *Contact*, is being issued.

Amongst the new methods and developments that have been introduced in the work of the executive management of the Section, we have started fortnightly meetings of all the members of the executive staff: National President, Vice-President, National Secretary, Treasurer, Chief of Staff, Organization Assistant, Librarian and Recorder. All matters are now discussed by all the members of the staff and their advice is taken into account by the President.

*Integration, Co-operation and Efficiency* are the keynotes of all the present work in the Section. In order to emphasize these features, new departments have been created. Each will act autonomously with a group of workers under its own Head who will report to the National President.

During the reported period 33 new members were admitted and 7 re-admitted; but against that we lost 5 by death and 19 lapsed. Our total membership on September 30th 1959 is 598. The new members are, almost all of them, young and enthusiastic people who are already working eagerly, and their membership

means an injection of fresh young blood very much needed in the Section.

It is very satisfying to report that all our Lodges are now meeting regularly and doing very well, with the exception of three, which we are trying to help. Our Lodges amount to 21.

During the year our official monthly magazine *Revista Teosófica Cubana* has been issued regularly with a new two-colour cover and new types, and with a careful selection of its content.

I was very fortunate in being able to attend, in the month of July, the Summer School Sessions of the Theosophical Society in America at Olcott; and, in September, together with my wife, to visit the neighbouring Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, where we held several meetings. My efforts were specially directed to help the work of the Lodges and Sections, and also to strengthen the bonds of friendship with the members. I look back with happiness to this brief tour.

In closing I can add that the period of tremendous development that has been ushered in our country by the triumph of the Cuban Revolution opens to us new avenues and splendid opportunities for Theosophical work of which we are gladly trying to make the best. With the knowledge that Cuba, as indeed the whole world, needs Theosophy at present more than anything else, we let this thought fill us with an ever deeper purpose, and an increasing eagerness to devote all our energies to the fostering of the Theosophical Society in Cuba, and to the service of our revered Great Ones, in whose service "there is perfect freedom".

ALFREDO PUIG, JR.

*General Secretary.*

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## HUNGARY

No Report

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## FINLAND

This year 11 new members joined the Society, and against this 2 members died. The membership thus stands at 514, an increase of 9. During the year one new Lodge, Saturnus, was formed in Helsinki, making a total of 24 Lodges.

The Lotus Circle has carried on its work during the spring season. We have also in Helsinki a Healing Group, which meets every fortnight.

The book *The Big Wonders* by a Swedish writer, Oscar Bush, has been recorded and given to the Blinds' Library.

On all festival days a public celebration has been arranged. The annual Convention took place at Easter time. It was, as usual, a happy and enthusiastic gathering. At the public matinee there was not so big an audience as we had hoped. The address was given by Mr. Sakari Seppälä. His subject was "The Third Object of the Theosophical Society," a very brilliant and profound address.

I am very happy to have some good news to report. It concerns the publicity work carried on by different Lodges, in order to make Theosophy more widely known in our country. This, I think, for the moment is a general trend among the Finnish Theosophists.

First of all, there is a new Theosophical magazine, besides *Teosofi* which has been published for 54 years. The Blavatsky Lodge in Helsinki has started to publish a new magazine which tries to convey the message of Theosophy by articles on

different fields, religion, psychology and para-psychology. The first issue was received rather well by members and non-members. It will come out twice a year.

Another Lodge, Kalevala, has published the Finnish translation of Clara M. Codd's book *The Ageless Wisdom of Life*. Another characteristic of our work is that the small Lodges in the countryside outside Helsinki, have been frequently visited by lecturers from Helsinki, which has given them valuable help and inspiration. Some of these lectures have been for the public.

The most important public lecture was the one arranged in July during President N. Sri Ram's visit to Finland. The public lecture, with the title "The Significance of the Present Time," was arranged on the 8th July in the Balder Hall in Helsinki, and we had an audience of about 200, most of whom were non-members. The President was also interviewed by Helsinki newspapers. After that we had the Summer School at Kreivilä, and were happy to have the President as our main lecturer; some of the members also gave lectures there. The Summer School was attended by over 90 members which is a top figure at Kreivilä.

Dr. and Mrs. L. J. Bendit visited Finland in September. Dr. Bendit delivered two lectures for members, the subjects being "Man the Transformer" and "Healing and Healers". Mrs. Bendit gave a public lecture on the subject

"Clairvoyance, its Truth and Illusion". At the meetings for members the Lodge room was packed full and at the public meeting at Balder Hall the audience was about 170. We are all very grateful to them both for their very interesting and profound lectures. They really are very fine lecturers.

I dare to say that the interest in Theosophy in Finland is growing and we are very grateful to the lecturers from abroad who have helped our work so much. We are thus looking forward with optimism towards the future.

SYLVI HORSTIO,  
*General Secretary.*

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## RUSSIA

Section Dissolved

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## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

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## SOUTHERN AFRICA

The work in this Section has shown a steadily increasing integration of purpose and orientation to the deeper study of the principles of Theosophy during the year just closed. There have been many difficulties due primarily to lack of understanding among our members and Lodge officers of the function and ideals of our Society, but these are being clarified and the work of the Lodges is being co-ordinated with a greater appreciation of the privilege of membership in the Theosophical Society. Thus, although our numbers have decreased from 669 to 623 there is an evident steadying in the membership as a whole. The greatest losses are from resignations and lapsings of many who joined under the impetus of a misrepresentation of our purposes and function. Death claimed 11 from our midst. Despite these losses, most of

our Lodges show appreciable gains in new members.

The annual Convention held at Easter this year showed the largest registration of members for many years, indicating also the stimulated interest in the activities of the Section and its administration. Especially was this noticeable since we had no specially invited guest lecturer. We were fortunate, however, to have with us a representative of the English Section, Miss M. Pickering of Bourne-mouth Lodge, and a representative from Denmark, Mr. Otto Viking. The latter, here on holiday, visited many of our Lodges and gave a great spiritual uplift wherever he went.

The Convention was preceded by a three-day Worker-Training Conference, an innovation in this Section, which proved successful in giving intensive

training in the duties and responsibilities of the various officers of a Lodge and preparation and practice in presenting Theosophy to our public. There was a strong request for a repetition of this course at our next Convention.

During the year the National Constitution and By-Laws was revised by a special sub-committee and the amended form approved at our National Council meeting during Convention. It is now printed in small booklet form, convenient and practical for use of Lodge officers and members. This has long been a necessity and the efforts of this sub-committee should prove an assistance to all workers here.

Two regional congresses were held this year: one in Bulawayo for Rhodesian Lodges during the Whitsuntide holidays and the other in George for Cape and Coastal Lodges over a September holiday weekend. These were both attended by the National President who spoke to the joint assembly of members and gave the public lecture. These regional conferences are proving valuable for the exchange of ideas on Lodge problems and their solutions, and for the very material advantage of integrating the work in the Section. An inter-Lodge conference was being planned for Transvaal Lodges, also to be an annual affair.

The usefulness of the National Library has been expanded by the inclusion of new books obtained by purchase and by receipt of volumes for review, as well as by new tape-recorded lectures. The rental price on the latter has been reduced to allow our smaller Lodges freer use of these as a necessary part of their public presentation of Theosophy. Another

innovation in the National Library has been the establishment of a Braille department with the kind assistance of the Theosophical Braille department of the American Section, and a number of our members are studying to transcribe our literature into this medium to enlarge our usefulness in this field.

One new Lodge was chartered this year, but this increase has been off-set by the dissolution of one other, thus leaving the same total of fourteen. A new centre has been established in Northern Rhodesia and we welcome the re-establishment of a centre in Grahamstown.

During the year the National President toured the entire Section, meeting with every Lodge in private members' gatherings and giving public lectures. Many isolated members, unable to attend Lodge meetings, were also visited. The area covered is very large, our Lodges far-flung, and the travel very expensive, but this work of the National President is now financed by the Section, as it is felt to be an important part of the effort of consolidating and co-ordinating these widely separated groups.

Field work is specially active in Rhodesia under the National Field Work Organizer where a group of experienced teachers of Theosophy is aiding the smaller Lodges and making new contacts in other cities with a view to establishing centres later. Co-operative field work is also being done by experienced lecturers in the Cape region and we look forward to a vital increase in our growth during the next year.

MARY G. PATTERSON,  
*General Secretary.*



## SCOTLAND

The 49th annual Convention of the Theosophical Society in Scotland was held at the national Headquarters, Edinburgh, on 13th-14th June.

Mrs. Jean Allan, General Secretary, who presided, welcomed the members present from the various parts of the Section. A special welcome was extended to our guest of honour, Dr. L. J. Bendit, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England, on his first official visit to Scotland. Greetings which had been received were read, and Dr. Bendit added the greetings from the English Section.

A general survey of the work of the year was read by the General Secretary; this showed the continued work and study carried on in the various districts, and the public lectures provided for non-members.

We had very few visiting lecturers during the year, and to fill our syllabuses we had to rely on our own members. They responded very well, and we are indeed grateful to them. Glasgow district makes good use of tape recordings and finds them very helpful; in this way we have the benefit of lectures which would otherwise be impossible.

The Besant Memorial Library at Headquarters continues its work under the guidance of the new librarian, Miss J. Carstairs, and her helpers.

Work for the refugees claims our attention and help, as the need for money,

clothing and food is still a serious problem. Adyar Day and White Lotus Day were celebrated in the usual manner and as a result donations were sent to Adyar for the special funds.

Membership remained steady during the year. Our financial difficulties are by no means over, but the letting of the ground floor flat at Headquarters has certainly been well worth while.

After the business part of Convention was over Dr. Bendit gave a talk to members on "Theosophy in Transition," a very interesting survey of the different phases of the Society's life and work. On Sunday afternoon he spoke to us on "Perceptivity," a stimulating and helpful lecture. This brought us to the closing stage of our Convention, and our deepest thanks were expressed to our guest for his help and inspiration. He certainly left us with plenty of ideas and propositions to keep us mentally active for quite a long time, and much that should prove helpful to us in our work for the Society.

It was a happy gathering and I am sure we all felt it had been good to be together once again in friendly association, reviving old friendships and making new ones. The public lecture in the evening on "Health and Healing" was well attended, and many non-members were present.

JEAN ALLAN,  
*General Secretary.*

## SWITZERLAND

Our membership has unfortunately decreased somewhat: last year it stood at 237, now it is only 223. Sixteen names had to be dropped from our list; in most cases these were older members who did

not want to continue with us, but unfortunately there were also two younger members. Five members died, one of them being Adrien Gogler, who was known and esteemed as a wonderful

worker. Seven new members entered the Society and we hope that in their enthusiasm they will bring a new impulse to our work in the Section.

The Lodges in our country are very active working groups and the collaboration among members has improved greatly, as I was gratified to see when I visited the different towns. The Youth Group in Geneva is working well and is fond, as ever, of treading new paths, which is very much to be welcomed. In Berne, our capital, a group has been formed and we hope that it will grow into a Lodge some day. Personal contact among the members, for example on excursions, at concerts and tea parties, contributes greatly to improving work within the groups and to making members more open to the problems facing the world.

The French and German Regional Summer Schools, too, have become an essential part of our work, for they have forged indissoluble links between the countries of the respective regions.

At our Headquarters in Geneva public lectures are given regularly, mostly by good lecturers among our members, and they are well attended. Mr. A. Sassi and Mr. G. Tripet lecture regularly in Grenoble and Lyons, the General Secretary lectured once in Paris and Mr. Hanspeter Wyss is giving a series of talks in Zurich. Unfortunately we have had no visiting lecturers from abroad this year. At the annual Convention, which was a particularly beautiful event in the life of our Section, Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar, who is now in Switzerland, spoke to members and friends.

The yearly Regional Committee meeting in Basle should be mentioned too. Under the leadership of the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society

in Europe, the Committee discusses how much good work can be done to help the region in question. This time the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe, Mr. van Dissel, the German, Austrian and Swiss General Secretaries (Mr. Boyken, Dr. Lauppert and myself) were present, along with Mrs. Boyken, Mr. and Mrs. Schleifer from Vienna and Mrs. Scheffmacher, Secretary of the Committee. In Basle, too, the Round Table meets regularly for its ceremonial work. *Adyar* and *Clarté*, our two regional magazines, are popular with members and sympathisers and, since there is little or no local news in these publications, six-monthly circulars appear which keep members informed of any interesting events.

The Order of Service helps, as ever, to lessen suffering, as far as its means allow.

In July the General Secretary took part in the Summer School at Gammel Praestegaard in Denmark, which was a very beautiful event. She gave a lecture there, as also later, in September, in Pichl, at the German Regional Summer School. The European Congress in Hamburg was a wonderful success, as all who attended will certainly agree. The President gave it a special note and we were able to bring back much strength and light into our daily life, making it easier for us and richer with service to our brothers.

I hope that these few sidelights on our work will suffice to show that even our Section, which has become so small, is prepared to play its part in work which, I am bold enough to claim, really could transform the world, if we would only take that work seriously enough.

CLAIRE WYSS,  
General Secretary.

## BELGIUM

Our Convention was held on the 21st June 1959 in Brussels.

During 1958-1959 we had the pleasure of welcoming 19 new members. On the other hand we had to register two demissions, four deaths, and shall, perhaps, be obliged to cancel the membership of those members who did not pay their annual dues. So the number 400 of our membership at the end of this year will change slightly. Our Convention is perhaps the last one of those of the other Sections in Europe to be held; therefore I was able to read some of the reports of their General Secretaries. The general tone of the reports is disenchanting. It seems that we are in the trough between two waves. The ideas which produced full halls in the Sorbonne and everywhere in the time of Mrs. Annie Besant have become part of the common knowledge, and the wave of the golden age, announced by Mrs. Cilliers in the reviews *The Link* and *Clarté*, has not yet come.

A Theosophical Report has to deal not only with the past and the accumulated Karma of our Society; it has to say something also of the Dharma, of that which has still to be done and accomplished. The results obtained by us are not worthy of the high mission entrusted to us by Mme. Blavatsky.

We have to reduce to a minimum all that which does not form part of one of the special Objects of the Theosophical Society.

In the world there is a phalanx of men and women of good will, whose spiritual radiation creates that psychic climate which uplifts the soul, which is rendering life and evolution easier for the weak, the neurotic, the ignorant, the agitated. Many of those who are "serving" in this manner on the spiritual plane, could do this more efficiently if they possessed Theosophical knowledge, if they knew that they are collaborating with those Great Beings who constitute the Protective Wall of Humanity. This is the reason why I proposed to have in October a General meeting of all the Lodges in Belgium with the aim to organize together an activity of Healing and Spiritual Help. Such a work appears to be really Theosophical. We are, or we should be, qualified to accomplish it. We should give ourselves seriously to this work, without being diverted by activities accomplished by others, and keep in mind that this mission of healing and esoteric help is the highest ideal of the Three Objects of the Society established by our Masters.

TH. CHAPELLIER,  
*General Secretary.*

## INDONESIA

No Report

## BURMA

In the year under report the Sectional strength, both numerically and financially, remained almost the same as in the previous year.

It is gratifying to report that in spite of many handicaps, the Lodges in Rangoon and Mandalay could still carry on their usual activities, their Sunday meetings, their special study classes, and their humanitarian work. The topics discussed in the meetings of the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon, covered a wide variety of subjects on Theosophy, Buddhism and Humanitarianism. In the study classes conducted on the second Sunday of every month, Brother Hla Maung took up *First Principles of Theosophy* and *Talks on the Path of Occultism*. Brother Hla Maung also conducted Sunday evening classes on *The Ancient Wisdom and Man: Whence, How and Whither*. Study classes were also held by Brother San Hla on *The First Book of Theosophy* and *Talks on At the Feet of the Master*. Brother Maung Gyi conducted study classes in Burmese on *The Essentials of Buddhism* and *The Eye of Wisdom*. It will thus be seen that some of the members in Rangoon are keeping themselves well occupied.

Burma Humanitarian League, under the devoted management of Brother San Hla, is steadily doing good work and making more converts in the districts, helped very much by the untiring zeal with which Rev. U. Lokanatha carried on propaganda work all over the country.

The Burmese translation of the Theosophical Manual *Reincarnation* was brought out in print during the year under report, thereby adding to the two in Burmese, *Karma* and *Man and His Bodies*, already published last year. The translation of *The Astral Plane* has been undertaken and is nearing completion and the next book to be taken up is *The Devachanic Plane*.

Brother Ramanathan continued to do good work not only in the management of the Theosophical Book Depot, but also in the all-round management of the Olcott Lodge and the Trust School. Brother Than Kyaing was responsible for the proper upkeep of the accounts of the Burma Educational Trust and the School and Brother Rama for the proper running of the R.T.S. Library.

The Trust School continued to keep its *status quo* this year in spite of the adverse effects produced on all the schools in Rangoon by the removal of the hutments from town. The congestion in the accommodation of the classes has now been completely relieved, thanks to the recovery of the flats formerly requisitioned and occupied by the Government.

The Section land at Thingangyun remains in the same condition, part of it being occupied by the caretaker U Po Yeik and the remaining portion being occupied by the Hindustani squatters.

PO LAT,  
General Secretary.



## AUSTRIA

The year under report was for our country a year of stable and peaceful development, the economic conditions were good, the political situation was well balanced. The international position of Austria has been strengthened by the choice of Vienna as the seat of the International Atomic Energy Commission.

The Lodges at Vienna (4), Graz (4), Bruck a. d. Mur (1) and Linz (1) maintained their usual activities. Again there was a small decrease of membership: 15 members joined, 18 members died, resigned or were lapsed, 2 were transferred to another Section, bringing the total membership to 289 at the end of the year, against 294 at the beginning of the year.

The outstanding event of the year was the inauguration of the new premises of the Federation of Lodges at Vienna which took place on White Lotus Day, May 8th 1959, in the presence of many members, including delegates from Lodges outside Vienna. The General Secretary of the European Federation, Mr. J. E. van Dissel, sent a message of congratulation. The new premises of the Vienna Federation are well situated near the

Western railway station and comprise a small lecture hall, a room for Lodge meetings, a library and the necessary byrooms.

The Adyar-Verlag at Graz, the Regional Publishing House of the German-speaking area in Europe, published a new edition of *At the Feet of the Master*.

The undersigned and the Vice-President of the Austrian Section, Mr. Schleifer, attended the meeting of the Regional Committee for the German-speaking Region of the Theosophical Society in Europe at Basle, Switzerland, in April, and the sessions of the European Council at Hamburg, Germany, in August. About one dozen Austrian members attended the European Congress at Hamburg.

The Regional Summer School at Pichl Austria, was this year very well attended and had a still more international character than in former years. We were especially happy to have Mr. J. E. van Dissel in our midst who had done so much for revival of the Theosophical work in our part of Europe in the years after 1945.

NORBERT LAUPPERT,  
*General Secretary.*

## NORWAY

We look back on another year of activity, a good year of work, marked by optimism.

In October 1958, Mr. J. E. van Dissel, President of the European Federation of the Theosophical Society, visited us. He gave two lectures, one for members on the work of the Federation, the other on "The Masters and Evolution" which was open both for members and interested

outsiders. It was a great experience to meet Mr. van Dissel, with his talent for organization and his inspiration as a Theosophical lecturer.

Then there was the visit of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram. Unexpectedly he decided to include two days for Norway; we were called on the telephone from the Danish Summer School to be informed that the President would come

and we gladly accepted. During the two days he gave lectures on "The Duties of the Theosophist Just Now" and "The Future of Humanity". The lectures and the translations were taken on a wire recorder so that other people, not attending the lectures, may hear them later on. The lectures are of the kind the President alone can give.

On the 7th and 8th September we were visited by the English General Secretary, Dr. Laurence J. Bendit and his wife, both able and inspiring lecturers. The visit also included a trip to Bergen, where they gave two highly appreciated lectures on Para-Psychology and Clairvoyance, one of them public. In Oslo Dr. Bendit lectured on "Theosophy in Transition" and Mrs. Phoebe Bendit on "Clairvoyance, Insight and Illumination".

This year we have had our usual Sectional meetings, with programmes alternating between condensed summaries of articles and news from magazines from abroad, and public lectures by myself. The titles of the last lectures were: "In the Light of Theosophy," "Is There a Plan in our Life?" "Was

Shakespeare an Occultist?" "Theosophy—a Living Tradition," "A Painful Truth," (i.e., the scientists confronted with the results of Para-Psychology). On Foundation Day, 17th November, we had an inspiring lecture read by Mademoiselle Pascaline Mallet on "From Eternal Sources".

On 8th May we had a White Lotus Day meeting with the usual ceremonial, and a play over the wire recorder "Behind the Hedge of Death," based on an occult novel by Mrs. Marjorie Livingstone.

Since our last report a new Lodge has been founded in Oslo, called the Dharma Lodge; it has 10 members all busily engaged in Lodge work of various kinds. The Adyar Lodge has formally become a part of the United Oslo Lodges.

Two of our members, Mrs. Lerche Samson and Mrs. Selma Fjeld, Rjukan, have passed to the Peace.

We had 4 new members in Oslo during the year and now have 164 members in the Section of Norway.

ERNST NIELSEN,  
*General Secretary.*

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## EGYPT

No Report

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## DENMARK

The year has brought changes, both positive and negative, for the Section. The number of members has been reduced through more resignations than usual, the number of those resigning being greater than the number of those who have joined the Society. But there have been many pleasant events, not only the Summer Schools and visits from overseas lecturers, but also in the shape

of understanding and harmonious co-operation among members.

Often the positive aspect of the work is not so conspicuous as the aspect manifesting through conflict and separative personal frictions.

The annual Convention was held in Copenhagen on the 25th and 26th April. The number of members was ascertained to be 284. As usual the

Convention comprised a meeting of representatives dealing with the business aspect of the work, and a meeting of members with lectures. At the last meeting a lecture was given on meditation, and the annual Convention finished with a symposium on Brotherhood. On the whole, the Convention was held in an atmosphere of brotherhood and harmony.

The importance of Gammel Praestegaard for the Theosophical work in Denmark and the other Scandinavian countries seems to be constantly increasing. This year the Summer School was unusually well attended, the number of visitors being about 120. This large number of visitors was presumably due to the fact that the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, was present at the Summer School as guest of honour and that Mrs. Josephine Ransom was the leader of the School. The motto was: "The Master as the True Ideal," and the thought current of the School was to a great extent pervaded by this motto. In addition to many members from Denmark the School was visited by members from Norway, Sweden, England, Switzerland and Germany. Lectures were given by the President, Mrs. Ransom, Mr. von

Fielitz-Coniar, Mr. Otto Viking, Mr. and Mrs. Wyss, Dr. Shila Ransom, Mrs. Britta Rodosi, Mr. J. H. Möller and several others. In the shape of symposiums several members gave valuable and vivid contributions to the life current of the School.

The creators and owners of Gammel Praestegaard, who place the property at the disposal of the Summer School free of charge, had through considerable financial sacrifice made great improvements since the Summer School of 1958. Especially in the loft several new rooms have been constructed for the benefit of the Summer School.

In September Denmark was visited by the English General Secretary, Dr. L. J. Bendit, and Mrs. Bendit, who gave lectures in Copenhagen, Aalborg and Aarhus. The members much appreciated the lectures given by Dr. and Mrs. Bendit.

As usual a Summer School was held at Besantgaarden, and it was attended by many members. Part of the Summer School was devoted to the work of the Liberal Catholic Church and another part to Theosophy.

J. H. MÖLLER,  
*General Secretary.*

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## IRELAND

This report begins with last year's Convention, the keynote of which was "From the Unreal Lead Us to the Real," our guest speaker being Mrs. Olive Stevenson Howell. It proved a very happy and inspiring Convention. Lectures under the headings of "The Life of a Lodge," "Discipleship in the Modern World" and "The Function of Death in Evolution" were most interesting and evocative as was evident from the subsequent discussion and questions.

*Lecturers.*—During the year under review we had the privilege of welcoming the following visitors from overseas: Mr. Seymour Ballard, U.S.A., Dr. and Mrs. Bendit and Mr. Leslie-Smith, London; from the North of Ireland Dr. Hugh Shearman and Mr. Henderson. Other speakers during the year were: The Rev. E. Savell Hicks, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Ogden, Miss Emerson, Mrs. Hornidge, Mr. Duck, Mrs. King, Mr. Eric Classon. On the lighter side we have had several cultural

evenings open to the public, with colour slides and music and also several symposiums and tape recordings. Our problem in this country is that we are rather isolated and it is very difficult to procure and afford travelling expenses for suitable speakers. We suffer from a serious lack of lecturers so we are deeply grateful to those who can and do come to help us with the work over here.

*Lodges.*—The attendance at public meetings has been good on the whole. The Dublin Lodges monthly members' meetings for discussion and study continue to be very friendly and interesting. Here we discussed a chosen subject, each member present contributing so that the sharing of knowledge and experience may enable us to go away with a greater understanding of the subject under discussion. It is preceded by a meditation group held in a room upstairs reserved for the purpose. A study group under Mr. Pielou has also been held regularly. Cork Lodge has had many difficulties and illness, and a death among its few members, but the President, Mrs. Thompson, has kept the flag flying in her own inimitable way.

*Library.*—Our Librarian, Mrs. Gregg, has left us for a year and during her absence Miss Hoy is acting in her stead. We have now close upon two thousand books, many of them rare and out of print. There is also a small reference library upstairs available to members.

Our Christmas sale was as usual a great success both financially and socially and we warmly thank all those friends who supported us. White Lotus Day was commemorated as usual with the room decorated with white flowers. This year we had a recording by Miss Clara Codd about H.P.B., followed by the usual readings.

We have subscribed to the following funds at Adyar: the A.B.C. Fund, the

Adyar Day Fund and the Raja Commemorative Fund.

At the annual business meeting of the Irish Lodges held in January 1959 I was nominated as General Secretary and Mr. Pielou as National Treasurer. There were no other nominations.

*Magazine.*—Our magazine *Theosophy in Ireland* continues with three issues yearly. The expenses of this magazine are very heavy, and subscriptions do not nearly cover the cost of printing.

Our numbers are still small; up to this year since the division of the Theosophical Society in Ireland we have steadily advanced but now, during the past year we have a lower membership owing to a transfer and deaths. Death has opened the gates of freedom to three of our members, Miss Anglin, Cork Lodge, Miss McDonnell and Mrs. Pielou, Irish Lodge.

In conclusion I would like to thank those who have helped with the work of our Lodges during the past year, those who have lectured and acted as chairmen and also those who have done the more humble but very necessary tasks.

The growth of Theosophy in Ireland depends largely upon the life of our Lodges and the sharing of responsibilities. If we can but make the effort I feel that we may look forward to an increased membership in this country.

Let each one of us realise that we have something wonderful to tell the world, which if understood would make the world a different place, a place of peace and greater happiness. We in the Theosophical Society are here to help in that understanding, to contribute something to the awakening of that hidden Divinity in man and a deeper understanding of the meaning of Brotherhood.

EVELYN O. HORNIDGE,  
General Secretary.



## MEXICO

Our dear Brother Adolfo de la Peña Gil, who was General Secretary of this Section for 22 years, passed away during the year under review and our Section had to face many difficulties of reorganization.

Our 40th annual Convention was held in Mexico City, 26th to 29th December 1958, delegates from nearly all the Lodges of the Section being present. The following Resolutions were passed:

1. It was agreed that the National Council should be re-elected but that it should be enlarged by appointing six additional members, so as to give opportunities of work to others. Four of these six new members are living in the north, south, east and west regions of the country. Their responsibility is to visit Lodges and Study Centres located in their own region and report to the General Secretary's office. The other members of the National Council undertake specific functions according to their capacities.

2. The interior Regulations of the Mexican Section were re-formed with regard to the General Secretary's tenure of office. It was approved that he can be re-elected only for one more year.

3. The annual dues were increased in order to balance the Section expenses.

In 1958 there were 26 Lodges and 3 Study Centres in this country. In 1959 one more Lodge was chartered in Mexico City named Serenidad (Serenity). In Poza Rica, Veracruz, a new Study Centre named Upanishad No. 1. was formed. In 1959, 50 new members were admitted, 7 rejoined, 8 passed away and 70 members were lapsed. At present we have 550 members in the Section.

In April 1959 our Section undertook an active part in the Social and Economics International Council of the United Nations that met in Mexico City. Our

Section addressed a message of greeting to the Council's President emphasizing that a sincere application of Theosophical principles will resolve all the outer and inner problems of the world. This message was answered with sympathy by the President himself. Our Section gave as a gift to each of the nations' delegates a copy of Brother C. Jinarājadāsa's book *Practical Theosophy*.

Our former review *Dharma* has become a pocket-book size 48-page review, with the Section bulletin appearing as a supplement similar to *The Theosophist Supplement*. *Dharma* has been sent to all National Sections of the Theosophical Society and to libraries and philosophical and cultural centres.

Brother J. Francisco Alcaraz D. has published a booklet series on Theosophy which he has sent to all the Lodges of the Section. Lodges in the north and centre of the country have been engaged in propaganda by means of a free distribution of Theosophical publications.

It has been our endeavour to maintain a close contact with the members of the National Council by means of frequent meetings. We have been in constant and harmonious touch with the Lodges of the Section through the Executive Boards of each one of them.

It was necessary to make urgent repairs and reconstructions in our Headquarters building in Mexico City. We have in view the total reconstruction of the building which we hope will be initiated next year.

The three special festivals of the Society, White Lotus Day, Foundation Day and Adyar Day, were observed. The inspiring Ritual of the Mystic Star was performed at our Headquarters fortnightly.

ARTURO VADO LÓPEZ,  
General Secretary.

## CANADA

The past year has seen more than the usual activity and I feel that the resurgence I wrote about in my last report is about to take place.

During my tenure of office for the past fifteen years there has been a certain holding back of any real effort because of an utter lack of funds to do anything worthwhile.

Our magazine, of paramount importance to us, takes practically all our revenue with dire consequences to further efforts. Now, having in view a legacy from an admirer of that magazine and of our work in general, we shall be in a position to go ahead with a green light. Time will show just what I mean.

Last May I paid a visit to the land of my fathers which I had not seen for forty years. By air overnight from Buffalo I landed next morning at Manchester, and arrived in London just in time for the Convention.

It was a delight to meet the members there and to take part in the programme. Afterwards I spoke at the Camberley Research Centre and to the Blavatsky Lodge as well as to two others in the north of England, viz., Manchester and Hyde. So in spite of my visit being of a private nature I was enabled to glimpse some of the interior economy of that Section, and to meet many of its members.

On my return I found myself in the throes of the first Convention we have ever held and not only that but the celebration of the fortieth year of our inception as a Section, it having been inaugurated in 1919.

We were happy to have with us as guest speakers Miss Clara Codd, from Wheaton; Mr. Boris de Zirkoff, just back from his European tour; and Mr. Sam Wylie of Ann Arbor. Our very full programme was greatly helped by

the verve and vigour with which these guests entered into the proceedings. The meetings were well attended not only by the local members and those of our outlying Lodges, but by the general public as well. Enthusiasm ran high, and I am not pulling the long-bow when I say that the eastern part of the Section has received an impetus that has put new life into it and an enthusiasm that augurs well for the future of Theosophy in this country.

Recently a ballot was taken on the subject of raising the annual dues and it was carried practically unanimously.

World Day for Animals, now an annual event, was very successful and as an added attraction a film "Gautama the Buddha" was shown. The proceeds were given to the Humane Society which is badly in need of funds.

I am now getting in reports on the coming activities of the Lodges for the winter, and all are practical and optimistic. I would particularly mention the Vancouver Lodge whose president is Mrs. Buchanan, who is indefatigable in her efforts to expound *The Secret Doctrine* not only to her own Lodge but in others, and one I may mention is in the Canadian Federation. Thus is exemplified the working together of the various denominations for the good of the Movement.

The Toronto Lodge is as usual extremely active. The Library lent over fifteen hundred books during the year, and the Reading Room with its current Sectional magazines and other literature is well patronized. The Travelling Library with contacts throughout the Dominion sent out over five hundred books as well as many letters answering enquiries of divers kind.

I am particularly enthused with Dr. Hugh Shearman's book *To Form a*

*Nucleus*, and consider it so useful and informative that it should be read by every member without exception, and so have arranged that a complimentary copy be sent to each of our Lodges.

Our membership shows a small increase; the present standing is 352. Eight members passed away and five have been demitted to other Sections.

To sum up, I would say that we are running on an even keel, and personally I feel both sanguine and optimistic in the hope that our work will prosper, and that Theosophy will flourish in this great Land of Promise.

E. L. THOMSON,  
*General Secretary.*

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## ARGENTINA

As announced to you in my first letter as General Secretary I stated that during the first part of my term as such, instead of increasing the number of Lodges and members, it might be a good thing to have fewer. I have managed this, for I considered that they had not been formed with due consideration and the members were not convinced of the reality of our principles, while Lodges had been formed with a certain haste. I trust that the rest will continue to work strongly, though I expect still to have some desertions.

This year we printed 3,000 copies of a leaflet containing a lecture given by our beloved President entitled "Spiritual

Democracy," for we consider it of great interest at this time for all Spanish-speaking countries. We are distributing it throughout the continent. In addition, I have finished the translation of our President's book *An Approach to Reality* and I hope to send this to the press as soon as our Section finances permit.

Visits to Lodges have been much restricted due to the enormous rises in fares in our country and they are again to be increased by between 70 and 100 per cent.

On the whole I can affirm that our Section is working strongly albeit slowly.

N. RÍMINI,  
*General Secretary.*

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## CHILE

No Report

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## BRAZIL

In the absence abroad of our President, it is with pleasure that I submit a report of our activities during the last administrative period.

The Section has 28 active Lodges and one dormant Lodge. During the year

115 members were admitted, 21 rejoined and 139 lapsed. The membership now stands at 930.

In consequence of the closing of Editora Teosofica Adyar S/A and the transfer of its property to the Theosophical

Society in Brazil, a Book Department of the same Society has been created, with the object of facilitating the publication, distribution and acquisition of Theosophical works for all who are interested. It is hoped to expand the work through the whole of the Brazilian territory. There is felt also a lack of translations and editions of books in the Portuguese language, the majority of them being in Spanish which, however, a large part of the public is unable to read with facility. They are initiating, therefore, a "Book Printing Service," and are now printing the following books: *Conduct and Meditation*, 2,000 copies; *The Astral Plane*, by C. W. Leadbeater, 2,000 copies; *The Miracle of Birth*, by G. Hodson, 2,000 copies.

As to material for Theosophical propaganda, we have printed 60,000 leaflets containing the basic teachings of Theosophy. We hope that this Department in the near future, and with the support of Theosophists, will induce greater diffusion of Theosophical teachings.

In general, there is on the part of the majority of the Lodges an effort to extend and improve their programmes of Theosophical study, both in regard to functions at which the public is present, and also as regards the members. In this connection we have just issued a small publication *Subsídios de Orientacao Teosófica Cultural* (Aids to Theosophical Cultural Orientation) by Bro. Carlos de Souza Neves, of Rio de Janeiro, a course of advanced studies in Theosophy, composed by members of all the Lodges.

In Barra de Coqueiros, Sergipe, under the direction of Bro. Ranulfo V. de Souza, and in Barretos, under the direction of Mrs. Alfonso Camara Filho, two Theosophical study groups have been formed. We trust that they will pursue their object with enthusiasm and persever-

ance and will in the near future develop into Theosophical Lodges.

The propaganda department, thanks to the incisive direction of Bro. Joao B. Brito Pinto, is developing an intensive programme for the diffusion of Theosophy. Systematically, this department maintains the publication of articles in the columns of the Sunday newspaper *Diário de S. Paulo*. It is also making available an extract of various copies of the articles referred to, and has been publishing them since August 1957 to send to the Lodges wishing to do similar work in their own cities. It also puts at the disposal of the Lodges in the Capital and in Santos a projector suitable for "slides," thus offering facilities to lecturers to illustrate their Theosophical talks and lectures with pictures.

Our official organ, *O Teosofista* is issued bi-monthly. About 717 copies are distributed to Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, North America and Brazil. In it we publish articles translated from the reviews of other national Sections, Theosophical books, or authoritative articles by national Theosophists.

The Federation of Lodges in Rio de Janeiro, under the efficient presidency of Dr. Murilo Nunes de Azevedo, maintains an active relation with its Lodges in promoting financial resources with a view to the future acquisition of its own headquarters, in which the Lodges could extend their activities, and thus greatly facilitate the development of Theosophical work in the Capital of our Republic.

Bro. Gastao Sales, President of the Federation of Lodges in Sao Paulo, has presented to us a magnificent report regarding the activities and undertakings as concerned with the Theosophical Society. The continuing objective of this Federation is the acquisition of its own property, in which the Theosophical



Society in Brazil may function. The Federation is now in the process of organizing a Library Service; it is taking care that this project just initiated will be completed, for it is a work that is very necessary for the Society.

The Theosophical Order of Service has engaged in activities of benefit to infants. The workers have been indefatigable in supplying powdered milk to children in need, and in endeavouring to mitigate suffering in homes by giving advice to comfort the people and in providing food and clothing. Especially at Christmas the Order of Service distributed clothing to various families.

We had the great satisfaction of receiving a visit from our dedicated Argentine Brother, Señor German Valdetaro, who stayed some days with us and in Rio de Janeiro, taking part in our activities and treating us as true brothers. We take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of this interchange and our wish that it will soon be possible for him to repeat his visit.

Because he was departing for Europe at the beginning of July last, for a long stay there, our devoted National President, Tenente Armando Sales, passed on to me, according to the Rules, the direction of the National Section. During this tour our Brother took the opportunity of visiting the principal Theosophical centres in Europe, and in particular the Theosophical Congress held at Hamburg, Germany, from 2nd to 9th August last.

It is with much satisfaction that I mention here my most profound thanks to all those who have co-operated directly or indirectly with me in the period just ended. It is thanks to this definite and disinterested co-operation that we can attribute the good results of our toil. We hope that this will be increased and intensified even more during the coming year so that we may obtain even better results and be more efficient in the Cause of the Masters.

CINIRA RIEDEL DE FIGUEIREDO,  
*Acting General Secretary.*

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## BULGARIA

No Report

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## ICELAND

The Theosophical Society in Iceland has further increased its number of members. At the beginning of the year the number was 416, now it is 427. Eighteen new members have entered, 5 died, one resigned and one lapsed. This year has been one of many activities and events.

The annual Convention of the Section took place on the 4th October last, where

I was honoured by being re-elected as the General Secretary.

The Executive Committee of the Section had monthly meetings during the year with the exception of the two summer months. Twice in the week I had an open house for those wanting information about the aims and activities of the Theosophical Society. Three Icelanders

attended the European Congress in Hamburg at the beginning of August.

We had a special "Theosophical Week" in October 1958 in connection with the visit of the General Secretary of the European Federation of that time, Mr. J. E. van Dissel. He gave three public lectures and one for members only. Mr. C. R. Groves from England visited Iceland in May and gave two public lectures, and in June the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, gave one public lecture at the Headquarters of the Section in Reykjavik. Thus foreign leaders of the Society have given six public lectures during the year. Sometimes the Lodges have invited non-members to attend introductory lectures on Theosophy.

The magazine of the Section, *Gangleri*, has appeared as usual.

Besides the teaching given in the Lodges there were two study groups in Reykjavik: "The Black Rose" led by Mr. Gretar Fells dealing with "Life and Yoga" as their subject, and "The White Circle" led by the General Secretary dealing with the subject: "The Emotional Nature and its Development". During Mr. C. R. Groves' stay in Iceland he gave a lecture on the Theosophical Research Centre in England for those who attended the study groups.

We held our annual Summer School in June with our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, as the honorary principal and main lecturer. The President visited Iceland for the first time, and his visit was the most important event in the life and activities of our Section this year. At

the Summer School there were also three local lecturers, and nine members gave speeches in two symposiums. The Summer School was attended by sixty people.

The work of the Lodges was much the same as in foregoing years, but now we are planning to try new methods and widen the variety of our activities. At most meetings some music is given and sometimes we show films. But we intend to enrich our teaching with some new life by using new methods.

The Society's building in Reykjavik was under thorough repair this year, and high sums were needed. Members were generous both by donating and in other ways, and some ladies in the Order of Service, above all, showed much generosity.

Fortune favours the Icelandic Section as this Section is comparatively numerous and the number of members steadily increases. But this fact should be a challenge to us to greater steadiness and a deeper spirit of service in our work. It is not so much an increase in our membership that is necessary but an increase in the quality of our work. In other words, it is the duty of the members, especially those who have been trusted with leadership, to work perseveringly and do their utmost. According to Patanjali, duty "is an act for which no merit may be claimed in fulfilment, but which is discreditable in the omission". After all it is not the number of the workers that matters but the quality of the work.

SIGVALDI HJÁLMARSSON,  
General Secretary.

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## SPAIN

No Report

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## PORTUGAL

In 1957 we had to present to our Government a proposal to remodel the Rules of our Section. In the year 1958 we were able to hold a social meeting only on White Lotus Day. Afterwards we were unable to have even social meetings during one year. Happily the Rules are now approved by the Government and we were able to celebrate White Lotus Day with great rejoicing.

We had some other meetings: two lectures—one about "Confucianism" and the other, by our General Secretary, Mr. Felix Bermudes, named "Buddha Teaching His Disciples"—and some symposiums.

After the holidays we commenced Theosophical activities on the 9th October and had the pleasure of receiving the visit of the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Brazil, Mr. Armando Sales and his wife. He was kind enough to give a lecture to the Portuguese members, helping our work and increasing the enthusiasm of the members.

The Lodges are working with the usual regularity.

FELIX BERMUDES,  
*General Secretary.*

## WALES

There is little to report from Wales, that has not already been received. The statistics for the period under review show a decrease of only one in membership, but for the 12 months ended 30th December 1958 there was a decrease of seven. The number in December 1958 was 175 and on 30th September 1959 it was 174. Though we have enrolled several new members during 1959 we have lost an unusually large number of our older members by death. The Presidential Election work reveals that the proportion of elderly and sick members is high. Some of them are unable to take any part in the work, but we endeavour to keep them in touch and they appreciate this.

The year has proved difficult in some respects. There has been a great deal of dislocation and expense in connection with our Headquarters premises but we hope that these are happily settled and that in 1960 the work will run more smoothly than in 1959. We no longer

have a resident caretaker at Headquarters and this is a disadvantage which cannot at present be overcome.

*Lodges and Centres.*—Reports from our two large Lodges, Cardiff and Colwyn Bay, are encouraging and show that the work is carried on faithfully in spite of material difficulties and that the "labourers are few". Cardiff Lodge held a successful sale of work which realised over £43 for the World Refugee Year. Colwyn Bay Lodge realised more than £5 in a collection. Attendance at meetings, both of members and at public lectures, is disappointing here, as indeed it seems to be elsewhere these days. Reports from our small Lodges show little change. There are a number of unattached members throughout Wales who keep in touch with Headquarters, borrow books from the library and help with their thoughts.

*The Annual Convention* held at Colwyn Bay was a memorable one. There was a

representative attendance and from the start the gathering was very happy and united. Our President, Mr. Sri Ram, who presided, brought us great inspiration. A public lecture given by him in an outside hall on "The Future of Humanity" was listened to with rapt interest by a large audience, every chair in the hall being occupied.

*Contact with Other Organisations.*—

Many of our members work in other organisations—the United Nations Association, Animal Welfare, Vegetarian Society, the World Refugee Year Organisation, and the British Council. We have a number of students from overseas at our University Colleges in Swansea, Cardiff, Aberystwyth and Bangor. On May 18th the 38th Radio Goodwill Message from the Youth of Wales to the Youth of the World was broadcast. In our Capital, Cardiff, we understand that there is the greatest mixture of races and the least racial tension in Britain.

*The Regional Committee* for the British Isles and Ireland meets very infrequently and we feel that this Committee does little except arrange Summer Schools for members. There is great need in Britain to get into closer touch with the outside world. The public know next to nothing about the work of our Society and certainly they do not know what Theosophy is. The recent reviews in the leading newspapers of the book on H. P. Blavatsky indicate very clearly that this is true amongst the cultured and educated as well as "the man in the street".

I hope that we may soon have a magazine suitable for non-members. May it not be that we "spoon-feed" our members too much? We undoubtedly need to change ourselves so that our Lodges will attract to us thinking men and women as they did in the earlier years.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,  
*General Secretary.*

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## POLAND

No Report

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## URUGUAY

I have pleasure in reporting the activities of this Section over the past year.

*Lodge Morya.*—Meetings are held each week, consisting of a programme of Theosophical propaganda directed by Sister Esmeralda N. de Laguarda. In the absence of the President in June and July, his delegate Señor Alvaro Araujo acted in his place and, taking advantage of this opportunity, he issued an invitation to each member to take part in the talks

and express his opinions freely. I think that candid conversation, the right kind of questions and friendly dialogues can be an effective way of expressing profound thoughts.

*Lodge Pallas Atenea.*—At meetings held weekly, members and visitors study the works of the principal Theosophical authors. The perseverance of the President has succeeded in establishing an appropriate atmosphere and a relationship of



sympathy which enables him to expound the basic points of the teachings clearly and attractively.

*Lodge Harmonia.*—On 22nd July, which coincided with the Asala Festival, we celebrated Lodge Harmonia's 22 years of useful activity. Under the guidance of the Directive Committee and by an ordered study of the subjects chosen, efficient social work is carried on in the instruction and spread of Theosophical teachings. In addition, there is also a programme of artistic cultural events, and once a month there is a more private meeting for the understanding of mystical things.

*Adyar Group.*—The Group is sponsored by Lodge Harmonia and meets each month to carry out its declared objects.

*Lodge H. P. Blavatsky.*—This Lodge holds meetings fortnightly. The President, Bro. Francisco Lombardo, under the inspiration of the works of Theosophical authors, gives a recapitulation of the teachings, communicating it by means of illustrated lectures. The subjects that he chooses and the correct form in which he presents them attract the interest of the audience.

*Lodge Vidya.*—The subjects dealt with at the meetings, held fortnightly, are the teachings generally, with readings and commentary on articles and news that appear in Theosophical reviews and publications all over the world. These are varied by art sessions, which are recitations by Brother Berna Canavese, versed in the realms of poetry.

*Lodge Ariel.*—Weekly sessions are held, except during the spring vacations. The subjects dealt with are the writings of Madame Blavatsky, the Letters from the Masters, and articles by Mr. N. Sri Ram and other writers. It is possible to extract from the teachings practical values for living, which enable us to

understand the supreme importance of the lessons taught in the school of the world.

*Lodge Karma Marga.*—Meetings are held on Saturdays. At the instigation of the President the science of Yoga has been taken as the central theme for study, using *Practical Yoga Ancient and Modern*, based on the Aphorisms of Patanjali, with Ernest Wood's comments. This is felt to be an interesting experiment. Once a month each member of this study group presents a paper dealing with this matter, and the results of these efforts are now being appreciated. Some of the students who at first were only listeners, after this training have become good speakers.

At the time of drawing up this report the circumstances are difficult for our country, due chiefly to the inclemency of the weather with persistent rains and great floods in populated areas and cultivated land. The economy has been upset causing a series of upheavals which, directly or indirectly, have affected the progress of our Society.

At the close of last year there was a diminution, a loss of seven members. At present ninety members are registered. The audiences at the meetings are about average.

Due to lack of resources it has not been possible to revive the publication *Revista Teosófica Uruguaya*. Notwithstanding the difficulties mentioned, the more capable of our members continue to work with enthusiasm on behalf of the Cause that unites us. In this connection and in view of their special activities, mention should be made of the meritorious work done by Brothers Alvaro Araujo and Mario Mendez, who continue to translate from English into Spanish selections from Theosophical

literature which they offer to members and sympathisers.

We commemorated officially the following festivals: Founders' Day (17th

November), Adyar Day (17th February) and White Lotus Day (8th May).

ANIBAL LISSARDY,  
*General Secretary.*

## PUERTO RICO

Our work this year has gone on as usual. The closing of one of our oldest Lodges, Nivritti Marga, when its President and some other members passed away and others were too old to carry on, caused the dropping of six members. We also had 2 members from the Lodges in San Juan who passed away, making a total of 8 outgoings this year.

We have six new members, which brings the total enrolment to 91 members. We have some visitors attending a study class and we hope some of them will join the Society in the near future.

We have carried on all our activities regularly, including our radio programme in San Juan, besides another radio programme conducted by Lodge Amor in Arecibo. Our journal, *Heraldo* continues to be sent all over the Spanish-speaking countries and our meetings and study groups are carried on punctually.

The Convention this year was held in March, and was one of the best we have had so far. We had attendances

from almost all the members from the island and the surroundings in San Juan and Santurce. It was a happy gathering and full of enthusiasm. Agreements were made as to the future of our work and promises were made by the members for their co-operation individually to promulgate our teachings, and to live according to these as an example to others of the life a Theosophist should live.

We have gone through a very hard trial this year, through the illnesses of some of our members, nevertheless our devoted small group of members has fulfilled all the routine work of our Section.

We are small in number, but are a fine group of faithful workers and with the help of God and the Masters we will continue to spread the Light of Theosophy as long as we have strength to do it.

ESPERANZA C. HOPGOOD,  
*General Secretary.*

## RUMANIA

No Report

## YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

## CEYLON

A review of the past year is highlighted by the two-day Convention of the Section on 22nd and 23rd November 1958, graced by the presence of Mr. N. Sri Ram, International President, and Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram. In order to share this rare privilege as widely as possible, Colombo was decided upon as the venue on this occasion. The conference was held at the Green House, situated in the almost rural setting of Vihara Maha Devi (formerly Victoria) Park, by the kind courtesy of the late Mr. Donovan Andace.

The public lecture on the first day was given by Mr. N. Sri Ram on "Theosophy, a Comprehensive Synthesis," and on the second, by the Rev. Richard R. de Ridder, Th.B., M.A., on "The Problems of a Multi-Religious Community".

Theosophy, said the President, was a matter for exploration and discovery, and not a matter for propaganda. Its path lay not along that of mechanical living such as is commonly practised among people who are prisoners to the conditioning they have undergone. Theosophy is a transforming factor for brotherhood. Superficial, crude understanding cannot bring about spiritual revolution. The individual is of vital importance. The Society should not appear as a sounding board; its function is not the carrying out of the set ideas of its leaders. There is a natural affinity between pure consciousness and Truth. The pursuit of Theosophy would lead to an intuitive realization and appreciation of Truth, and some measure of the value of our National Societies and Lodges would be seen as signs of such development come into existence among them.

Curtailement of the duration of the President's visit caused disappointment to some out-station Lodges and public institutions. Lectures at the Y.M.B.A., the Y.M.C.A. and the Buddhist Ladies College served to re-introduce Mr. and Mrs. Sri Ram to Colombo audiences and were followed with the greatest interest.

A decision taken at Convention was the formation of a Theosophical Order of Service with a view primarily to the promotion of racial and religious harmony. Organization of this activity has been undertaken under the leadership of Mr. S. N. B. Wijeyakoon, who has kindly consented to conduct this work both in Colombo and the out-stations.

Among overseas visitors and lecturers during this period were Mr. and Mrs. Leslie P. Hardy, The Hon. H. G. R. Mason, Miss Rose Pollard, Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, Miss Sandra Chase and Mr. Peter V. Balin of New Zealand, Mrs. Marjorie E. Alderman of Australia, and Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton of U.S.A. We thank them again for joining us and helping in the work of the Society, and are particularly appreciative of our visitors from the United States for their instructive work and encouraging example during the week they spent among us.

Our membership has fallen, due in part to the unsettled conditions which have continued throughout the country, and partly to lapses resulting from non-payment of dues. We look forward to improvement in the coming year from better civic conditions and increased effort among the Lodges.

N. K. CHOKSY,  
General Secretary.

## GREECE

During the past year the Greek Section was regenerated. I have reported before about the dissensions caused by a small number of members. The General Assembly which was held at the end of 1958 settled definitely the situation by an overwhelming majority. Now the membership is absolutely homogeneous and all the Lodges have expressed their full devotion to the central administration of the Section, and the union has been re-established completely. There were 26 members who preferred to resign from the Society.

We had to drop from our rolls members who were not paying their dues and were only nominally reported on the rolls. The membership amounts now to 203 members and we have new requests which we are examining. Some of the Lodges had to be closed because they had not enough members. There are now seven Lodges in Greece, two of them working in Athens.

During the past year we received the visit of various Theosophical personalities, among them Mr. J. Coats who gave a lecture in our Headquarters and our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who spent three days with us and gave a fine lecture. Details of his visit have been reported before. The President inaugurated our new Headquarters which is situated in the most central part of Athens. The festival of White Lotus Day was held with great ceremony; Mr. Vliamos, Mr. Prinaris and Mr. Melissaropoulos were the speakers of the day. We believe that our meetings are better attended and more enjoyed now than in the preceding years and from this point of view the year 1958-1959 may be marked as the year of good brotherhood.

The Greek Theosophical Publishing House has now published in Greek the famous book of H.P.B. *The Key to Theo-*

*sophy* for the first time in Greece. The Greek Section is publishing regularly the quarterly magazine *Ilisos* which has a large circulation and brings Theosophical ideas to Greek society in general, and is highly esteemed. We are also publishing a separate quarterly bulletin distributed free to members only.

The T.O.S. in Greece, thanks to the funds of our American brothers and sisters, brought to a happy end the great work of the Refugee Camp Kolokyntou which was adopted by Theosophists of Europe and America in 1954. Thanks to the Chairman of the Theosophical Committee in Washington, the indefatigable Mr. Alexander Logofet, a member of the T. S., the contributions of our American friends helped many children of the refugees to learn a profession or to go to school. This aid to the children was continued until now, thanks to the contributions collected by our good brother Mr. Logofet and his kind wife Mrs. Olga Logofet. Hundreds of food packages have been sent by them and distributed to the refugee families. Our slogan is "Save the Children" and we have done very much for this purpose. But the big work was accomplished by Mr. and Mrs. Logofet who, because of their enthusiasm, incited the generosity of our American brothers and sisters. We have also co-operated with the Swedish organization "The Radda Barnen" and with their pecuniary help we have placed 33 girls in a fine Institute.

As chairman of the T.O.S. and General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Greece I must pay a great tribute to our American friends for the feelings of brotherhood and humanism they have shown and I would be much obliged to you if you could transmit to those good brothers and sisters, and especially to our



brother Mr. Alexander Logofet and his assistant Mrs. Olga Logofet, the gratitude of hundreds of families and of more than 70 children for the aid

which was given to them and which helped them so much.

GEORGE VLIAMOS,  
General Secretary.

## CENTRAL AMERICA

It is with the greatest pleasure that I send a report of the activities of the Theosophical Society in the Central American Section. We truly feel deep satisfaction in being able to tell you that during the past year we have noted a great increase in the activities of all the Lodges in general.

*Convention Project.*—For various reasons we were not able to carry out our intention of holding a Central American Convention last August, but for the coming year all the preparations are now being made and we are certain that it will be a beautiful reality. The Convention will take place in August 1960 in San Salvador, in the Republic of El Salvador. At that date we shall be celebrating the anniversary of the founding of Lodge Teotl, and we shall then use our own new premises for the first time. We shall try to have a good attendance from all the members in Central America. Great credit is due to the Salvador members for their activity and enthusiasm in this work, as also to our members in the other Republics. If our International President should be making a tour in America about this date it would be a marvellous occasion for us if he could be present at our Convention and preside over it.

*Lodge Blavatsky, Managua.*—The members of the Theosophical group Blavatsky are waiting for their Charter in order that their Lodge may be duly organized. It is a group formed of fully prepared

members and much is expected from their labours. The other Lodges in that country are also working satisfactorily.

*Costa Rica.*—Our two Lodges Virya and Shakti continue their work under the direction of Sister Pilar Madrigal Nieto and Brother Arturo Jimenez Z. respectively. We wish to put on record also the devotion of these two members to our Theosophical work.

*Bulletin of the Theosophical Society in Central America.*—Under the direction of Brother Miguel Monge Echandi our bulletin has continued to circulate, and each day we have further requests for it from interested persons. The work done by Brother Monge Echandi is truly marvellous, especially in view of his delicate health, yet he always has time to take care of the various details involved in the translation of articles and the bringing out of the bulletin.

*Lodges in Guatemala* are also very active and are much interested in work of a social nature. They make frequent visits to our brothers in El Salvador, and are good collaborators in the preparations for our coming Convention.

During the year we received a visit from Brother Alfredo Puig of Havana who, with his wife, paid a short visit to our city. It was a pity that he could not stay longer, but we took advantage of his short visit to exchange views, to our great benefit.

JOSÉ JOAQUÍN ULLOA Z.,  
General Secretary.

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## PARAGUAY

No Report

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## THE PHILIPPINES

No Report

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## COLOMBIA

This 1958-59 report for the Colombia National Section ends on June 30th. There were 17 new members and 10 were readmitted, but 24 lapsed, bringing the membership to 146, a gain of 3.

In order to make publicity I have sent out pamphlets and also promoted interchange across the country.

A very important event, during March of this year, was the Resolution of the Theosophical Society's Executive Committee to distribute freely the *Theosophical Collection*, a 32-page pamphlet, one thousand copies for each issue. This work is done by Sister Corina Martinez and Brother Walter Ballesteros, who are our publications committee. The four pamphlets issued this year contained the following material, in Spanish, of course:

No. 23. "The Survival of Humanity by the Way of Harmony" (A lecture given at Adyar in December 1957 by Mr. James S. Perkins).

No. 24. "Man and his Struggle towards Perfection" (being chapters VI and VII of the book *A Theosophist Looks at the World* by Mr. N. Sri Ram).

No. 25. "An Era of Challenge" "Towards the Eternal," and "The Fighters" (three short articles by Mr. E. Norman

Pearson, Mr. Roberto Hack and Mr. J. Cruz Bustillo respectively, the first two from *The Theosophist*).

No. 26. "Essays on Happiness" (being extracts from the books *Happiness for You Now*, by Mr. Joseph Pang Way, *The Secret of Happiness* by Mr. Irving S. Cooper and Section XII of *Thoughts for Aspirants* by Mr. N. Sri Ram). Copies of these pamphlets have been sent to Adyar and to all Sections in Latin America.

I am very glad to inform you that all Lodges have been working well in diffusion of peace and fraternity, besides studying Theosophical subjects. All this work has been the result of the improvement of social relations and political events in the country. Actually we have a good Government which is represented by President Alberto Lleras. He is a man who understands feelings of peace and fraternity, not only for preaching but for practising them. We already enjoy all civilian rights, and there are no obstacles to holding private or public meetings. There is now hope for Theosophical development in our country.

CARMEN C. DE VENGOECHEA,  
General Secretary.

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## EAST AFRICA

In the Theosophical Society in East Africa 21 Lodges of our Section are spread in 4 East African Territories, viz., Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar. There are Lodges situated at a distance of about 700 to 800 miles from one another. There are 6 Lodges in Tanganyika, 11 Lodges in Kenya and 2 Lodges each in Uganda and Zanzibar Protectorate.

This young Section has grown from strength to strength during the twelve years of its existence and the several individuals residing at various places are devoting their time and energy to placing the teachings of our Society before the East African public very faithfully and with loyalty.

The Section has a total membership of about 600 out of which 80 members were enrolled and admitted during the tour of Mr. Rohit Mehta and Mrs. Shridevi Mehta. The main event during the year was the 14 week tour of these revered guests. Their lectures attracted several hundred people everywhere to the teachings of our Society and have evoked enquiries for Theosophical literature from people in East Africa. We are most grateful to these two brothers for cheerfully taking up this strenuous lecture tour which was a great success not only for them, but also for the East African Section as it attracted several people of varied denominations and races to the Society. It now falls to the lot of the Section Executive to maintain, if not increase, active Theosophical work in this country.

The Convention of the East African Section was held at Tanga during the Easter holidays and was a most successful Convention with a record attendance of 162 delegates including some well-wishers. The President and the members

of the Tanga Lodge had made elaborate arrangements for the delegates and the Section Executive is grateful to Tanga Lodge for the facilities they provided.

Nairobi Lodge is situated in the capital of Kenya, and is a most active Lodge with a membership of about 130. It has amongst the members a few devoted families who work hard for the spread of Theosophical teachings. During last Christmas season they held a study class at Nairobi when Bros. Ramanlal S. Shah, H. S. Patel and J. D. Shah gave lectures on the subjects "Life after Death," "Space, Time and Earth" and "Theosophy and the Theosophical Society" respectively. Sri Ratanjibhai H. Patel and Sri Hariprasad M. Chhaya of Nairobi Lodge toured the several Lodges of Kenya and Uganda in November 1958 and activated them. This Lodge has been the first in East Africa to plan for their own Lodge building.

Bro. Jasbhai of Highland Lodge, Eldoret, is doing good work by publishing a one sheet handwritten monthly bulletin with one page of English and one of Gujarati articles.

Bro. H. S. Patel of Mombasa, one of our senior members in East Africa, is attending the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, 1959-60. Mrs. Bapaiben Baria is to join him in the second half of the period.

There will be about 25 members from East Africa attending the International Convention this year at Adyar.

There are Libraries and Bookstalls at Zanzibar, Dar-es-Salaam, Mombasa and Nairobi. These activities should be co-ordinated and steps are being taken towards fulfilling that aim.

As General Secretary I visited Nairobi, Mombasa, Tanga, Chake Chake and Dar-es-Salaam Lodges during the year,

while our National Secretary, Bro. J. D. Shah, visited all the above Lodges.

In conclusion it is our sincere hope that with the Blessings of the Elder Brethren and the initiative of our various devoted members our Section will grow

not only in strength of membership but also in spreading Theosophical teachings to the interested public of East Africa.

V. H. KAPADIA,  
General Secretary.

## PAKISTAN

The Lodges of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan continued to function at Karachi, Hyderabad, Lahore, Quetta and Comilla (East Pakistan). Two Youth Lodges were also active in Karachi and Hyderabad. The Lodge in Jessore, greatly depleted in strength since partition of the sub-continent, continued to lose its members through the migration of more of its Hindu members to India, and has finally ceased to exist as a Lodge. Its status now is that of a Centre. Through the efforts of Mr. O. W. Kamsika, one of the members of the Karachi Lodge now working at Dacca, East Pakistan, a new Centre has been established. It holds its activities regularly, drawing to it an interested group of enquirers.

The Karachi Theosophical Society continues to be the largest and most active Lodge of the country and has presented a detailed and interesting report of its activities, closing the year with its membership at 159, a net increase of 10 members. The Lodge organized 48 public lectures during the year, held weekly members' meetings, carried out a most active programme of the Theosophical Order of Service and held special meetings to observe Theosophical Anniversaries and the United Nations Day. It has greatly expanded its library, added to it the beginning of an Islamic section, and has stimulated public and members' interest in its collections. Six of its mem-

bers attended the International Theosophical Convention at Varanasi, and some of its members attended useful meetings and Conferences of Social Welfare Organizations in Karachi and elsewhere.

The two Youth Lodges at Karachi and Hyderabad have also shown continued activity and interest in Theosophy. A fine set of young and earnest leadership is developing in these Lodges.

The Comilla Theosophical Society is another Lodge that holds regular weekly talks and classes, and has its own lecture hall and library.

The other Lodges continue to function but need the help of lecturers and organizers. Long distances greatly hamper regular visits to the Lodges.

During the year, Mr. John Coats from England and Mr. Pharisien Bruno from Italy visited the Karachi Lodge. Mrs. Flavia B. Snyder from Ojai, California, came to stay for a year, helping the work of the Lodge, Library and the Braille Press for the Blind at Karachi. Her visit is proving most beneficial to these departments of work. She will be in Karachi till May 1960. Along with Mrs. Rustomji, Mrs. Snyder represented the T.O.S. of Karachi at the National Association of the Blind in Bombay, India.

The Presidential Agent continued to publish the 8-page news sheet of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan under the name, *Theosophy in Pakistan*. An



attempt to start its supplement in Urdu, (one of Pakistan's national languages) had to be temporarily given up after one issue, due to lack of support in editing the same.

The Presidential Agent, Mrs. Gool Minwalla, gave several public lectures and members' talks at the Karachi Theosophical Society, and directed the work of the Theosophical Order of Service. She also visited the Comilla Lodge of the Society in East Pakistan for six days, gave public lectures to large audiences, and addressed members' meetings, thus stimulating an interest in Theosophy. As she was in Europe for seven weeks during the summer to attend Conferences of the Blind and the World Federation of UN Associations, other Lodges in the country could not be visited during the year. But Miss Khorshed D. Engineer visited the Lodge in Lahore for two months, gave public lectures, spoke to members and stimulated good interest in Theosophy.

Mrs. Minwalla is attending the Indo-Pacific Theosophical Conference to be

held at Wallacia, Australia, in January 1960 and will then visit Sydney, Adelaide, Tasmania, Melbourne and Perth as the guest of the Australian Section.

The Theosophical Society in Pakistan is very grateful to Mr. K. D. Shahani for sponsoring the tours of Mrs. Rustomji, Mrs. Snyder, Miss Engineer and Mrs. Minwalla from the funds of the Theosophical Fellowship of Service.

The work of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan, though not spectacular, has gone on steadily in spite of numerous difficulties and handicaps. The lack of leadership and of good lecturers exists almost everywhere except in Karachi. Even if visiting lecturers help to stimulate interest, the dearth of good local leadership results in the Lodges mainly marking time. If the Lodges are to be substantially helped, frequent study camps will have to be organized at several places from time to time.

GOOL K. MINWALLA,  
*Presidential Agent.*

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## MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

This is an unusually outstanding year for Theosophists in Malaya and Singapore inasmuch as we have set a record of achievement which it may be difficult to better in future years.

We were able to hold a very successful conference in Kuala Lumpur in February for the first time in the history of Theosophy here. We revived the publication of our quarterly *Malayan Theosophist* reaching a circulation of 2,000 copies in the third issue; the journal is distributed free of charge to all libraries, schools, etc., throughout the length and breadth of the land. In April a new Lodge was formed in Ipoh (Perak State) as a result

of the efforts of Mr. M. Bruno and Mr. S. Panadam, a second one in May in Malacca through the co-operation and enthusiasm of Mr. K. Kandiah, and a third one in November in Temerloh (Pahang) entirely due to the magnetic force of Mr. M. R. Brine. We are hoping to create interest in Raub and Kuantan (Pahang) and Johore Bahru (Johore State).

The increased publicity we are getting through the wide-spread distribution of our journal will not only enlighten the public regarding Theosophy, but will make it much easier for us to attract new members and thus open the way

for new Lodges to be formed in places as yet untouched by our spreading influence.

Theosophy seems to be better known in the West than in this part of the world, and much of our initial work will be to emphasize the fact that we are not a new cult or religion, but a society of people interested in religions and philosophies.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Layton's visit was greatly appreciated by the Lodges and the effect of their work will be felt for some time. We are now awaiting the visit of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Miss Sandra Chase in January 1960 for a three weeks' tour which we anticipate will be the greatest experience so far.

C. H. YEANG,  
*Organizing Secretary.*

## NORTHERN IRELAND

We have had a year of steady work during which we have held a total of over 150 meetings in Belfast and at other places, of which approximately half were for the public and half for members only. We have made new friends in several directions, but this has not been reflected in any increase in membership which, with a low intake, continues to fall through normal wastage.

Visiting speakers included Mr. L. H. Leslie-Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Bendit, Mr. Seymour D. Ballard and, most important of all, the President himself was able to fit in a brief visit to Belfast in June 1959, and to meet and speak to members, a very helpful and happy occasion.

HUGH SHEARMAN,  
*Organizing Secretary.*

## ISRAEL

The expectation of "a period of quickened growth and promising development" concerning our Theosophical activities in Israel—as mentioned in our Report for 1957-58—very gratifyingly came true during the year just ended. At its very outset we had particular pleasure in welcoming to our country Mr. John Coats who visited Israel for four days in October 1958, speaking to members and invited friends in Jerusalem, Haifa and Tel-Aviv. Brother Coats' excellent exposition of Theosophy, eloquently and convincingly stated, made a deep and lasting impression on his listeners and created everywhere a highly animated and spiritual atmosphere.

Lectures were given regularly in all our Lodges at Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv and Haifa, with a harvest of 30 new members joining our Society. Emmanuel Lodge, the youngest of our 5 branches in the country, was especially active achieving 15 new admissions in Haifa alone. With two resignations and one death the total number of members in Israel reached 81, an increase of 50 per cent as compared with last year's figure of 54.

On 11th February 1959, our dearly beloved Brother Salomon Sicsu, Link-Officer for Morocco of the Huizen Centre until his immigration into Israel several years ago, passed away quite suddenly while occupied with the drafting of a

treatise on a Theosophical theme. There is no sweeter death possible for a thoroughly devoted Theosophical worker than the one granted to our dear Brother by the Lords of Karma.

International contacts were not only cultivated, as heretofore, by an ever increasing correspondence but strengthened particularly this year by a number of visits of some of our members in Europe as well as in the New World. Mrs. B. Dominic, President of our Covenant Lodge in Tel-Aviv, went to Switzerland, France, England and the U.S.A., taking an active part in some of the activities there, whereas Mrs. L. Laufer and Mrs. H. Albach were able to attend the Summer School at Pichl, Austria, and the European Congress at Hamburg respectively. On the other hand, Miss Greta Zeuger, who came to Israel for a stay of several months, gave us on various occasions a vivid description of the Theosophical work in England, particularly in London.

Brother J. Poortman, Head of the Library of the Section in Holland, very generously donated to our "still modest library" a number of Theosophical publications, and Buddhistic literature was received as a free gift from the "Buddhist Publication Society" in Kandy, Ceylon; for all these valuable additions to our reading matter we are very grateful.

One of the highlights of our work during the year under review were two lectures on "Theosophy and the Ideal of

International Solidarity," given by Mr. Hans Zeuger, the Presidential Agent, in the working-camp of the "Service Civile Internationale," in the organizing of which he was instrumental in a private capacity. Volunteers from Germany, France, England and U.S.A. worked side by side with participants from Israel—Arabs and Jews of both sexes and one Armenian—in order to construct the playing-grounds of a newly inaugurated school for immigrant children from Yemen and Morocco in the Jewish settlement of Tzelafon, in the Jerusalem Corridor. A wonderful atmosphere of unity and spiritual upliftment was felt during both these lectures leading to—under other circumstances—highly delicate questions concerning Islamic, Christian and Jewish problems of a worldly and religious nature which nevertheless could be frankly answered, Theosophically interpreted and harmoniously synthesized. Most valuable contacts were made on these occasions with members of the Arab sector of our population which might lead to promising developments in the near future. It is of the utmost importance that the message of Theosophy should reach the minority groups in our country and that Universal Brotherhood, our foremost Theosophical ideal, thus be made manifest as an established fact.

HANS ZEUGER,  
*Presidential Agent.*

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## JAPAN

No Report

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## VIET-NAM

The 7th Convention of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam was celebrated in a special manner on the 25th and 26th April 1959. More than 200 members and delegates from the provinces filled the headquarters and listened with enthusiasm to the greetings received from our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, and the General Secretaries in other Sections. On the second day a symposium on "Spiritual Unity" took place in which delegates from nine different religions or sects participated. At the end all were in agreement to form a Spiritual Federation as soon as possible.

The following Theosophical and other events were celebrated: 17th November 1958—83rd Anniversary of Foundation of the Theosophical Society; 24th December 1958—Christmas, with a lecture on "The Compassion of our Lord Jesus Christ"; 8th May 1959—White Lotus Day; 22nd May 1959—Wesak.

It will be recalled that the programme of action outlined by the Council comprised three points: the practice of compassion within the Section and in society; the spreading of the Ancient Wisdom (Theosophy); and the attraction of new members. The results are as follows: From the beginning of October 1958, a programme of Theosophical teaching has been carefully elaborated and put into force, with the collaboration of Mr. Nguyen-van-Huan, Mme. Nguyen-thi-Hai, Mr. Nguyen-huu-Kiet, Mlle. Lou-thi-Dau, Mr. Nguyen-khanh-Phuoc and Mr. Vu-huy-Hien, with two lectures a week up to the time of the arrival in July 1959 of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson. It was intended to give members and sympathisers a deep knowledge of Theosophy and a solid basis for the practice of ethics. It also had the object of preparing the students for Mr. Hodson's

series of lectures, and was followed by a good number of members and sympathisers and readers of our Review.

The most marked result of this year's work was the support given by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Miss Sandra Chase to the Section's work during their three months' stay. Each week there were arranged two public lectures, two meetings for a course in Theosophy, and two meetings for questions and answers. By their vast knowledge and talent these two lecturers provided inestimable aid both to the public and to the members; the attendances were good and the audiences enthusiastic from the beginning of the visit until the end. It was noteworthy that members belonging to various religions came in numbers to the lectures and they invited Mr. Hodson to go and speak at their own headquarters. We wish to express here our deep gratitude to these two lecturers, Mr. Hodson and Miss Chase, for their untiring and disinterested work which gave such a marvellous impulse to the progress of the Vietnamese Section.

In addition to the wide spreading of the Theosophical teachings provided by public lectures at our Headquarters, at the headquarters of the Buddhist Association of South Viet-Nam, and at the municipal theatre in Saigon, by Mr. Hodson and Miss Chase, these lectures were also published in our official Section organ which is much appreciated by the intellectual public.

The Propaganda Committee, under the direction of Mme. Nguyen-thi-Hai, has since 1958 published for free distribution ten booklets, the five latest being: (in English translation of title) 1. *Theosophy Through the Ages*, by Mr. Nguyen-huu-Kiet; 2. *What is the Mission of the Theosophical Society? What has it*



*Accomplished in the 20th Century?* by Mme. Nguyen-thi-Hai; 3. *The Testing of Prince Djeta* ("Thu Long"), by Mme. Nguyen-thi-Hai; 4. *Theosophy and the Theosophical Society*, by C. W. Leadbeater, (translated by Mme. Hai); 5. *First Principles of Theosophy*, by C. Jinarājadāsa, (translated by Mme. Hai). Of each of these 5,000 copies were printed. Following a study course on "The Universe and Man," Mme. Hai has published the first volume of *The Astral Body*, which is greatly appreciated by the public. As Director of the Committee for Propaganda and the Spreading of Theosophy she envisages a wide distribution of leaflets and the publication of basic Theosophical works.

Thanks to the new light given by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Miss Sandra Chase, regular attenders at our Theosophical courses and sympathisers have joined our Society. During this year we registered 189 new members (104 during the period of stay of our distinguished guests). It is also to be noted that 18 members returned to the Section after having absented themselves for some time or having lapsed. Two members have left us through death. Our net increase for the year was 175 members. We have faith in these new members knowing their interest in Theosophy, in our Society, and above all in their general knowledge of Theosophy acquired by long and patient study.

At the present time the Section has 14 Lodges, two of them newly founded: Lodge Bac-Nha formed on 1st November 1958 at Vinh-Long, and Lodge Go-Cong formed on 8th December 1958.

The three principal Lodges in the Capital: Saigon, Dung-Hanh and Phung-Su, Young Theosophists Group, have made contributions in connection with

the preliminary work required by the visit of Mr. Hodson and Miss Chase. Lodge Saigon has now a library of 700 volumes, the gift of Mr. Marti Pierre.

Lodge Chon-Ly, in the capital of Central Viet-Nam, Hué, works regularly, organizing commemorative festivals and taking part in social activities. Lodge An-Giang publishes a quarterly bulletin, of which 600 copies are printed. Lodge Kiem-Ai at Banco (Saigon) began the year well but lapsed into inactivity on account of the ill-health of its President. Lodge Long-Xuyen has been re-organized.

The General Secretary has visited Lodges in the provinces as follows: Vinh-Long, My-Tho, Go-Cong and Phuoc-Hai, the aim being to encourage the Lodges and members in their Theosophical work.

The Orphanage of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam now has 45 infants in its care. A delegation of six members from the American Welfare Association visited the Orphanage and is taking an interest in the work of our Society.

With reference to the results obtained by our Section it is to be observed that, strictly respecting freedom of thought and action, the Executive Committee offers opportunities, especially to new members, to become active members by (1) acquiring a good knowledge of Theosophy, and (2) practising compassion. In a spirit of perfect liberty, fraternity and understanding we have worked heart and soul to give out the teachings of love and wisdom. May the Theosophy which has helped us so much also help all beings: May the Elder Brothers continue to give us Their Blessing!

NGUYEN-THI-HAI,  
General Secretary.

## VENEZUELA

This is the sixth year of Theosophical activity of the Venezuelan Section. During the period 1st October 1958 to 30th September 1959, the following activities took place: Seven new members joined, two members passed away and three resigned. Lodge C. W. Leadbeater ceased to function, due to the absence of Brother Valarino, who was its president. The other Lodges are carrying on their

normal work, even though the attendances are not very numerous.

On 4th October 1959, elections were held for General-Secretary, Assistant General Secretary and the Executive Council, the undersigned being re-elected as General Secretary.

PABLO BONILLA T.,  
*General Secretary.*

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## WEST AFRICA

We started the year with a total membership of 143. The number of admissions was 41. Two deaths were reported but there were no lapses.

No new Lodges or Centres were formed but activities in the existing ones were regularly kept up. At Accra the Secretary of the Blavatsky Lodge was, for a time, unable to carry on his duties which were covered by the Treasurer. In Nigeria Bro. I. C. Onwuka visited the Centres at Zaria, Kano, Kaduna and Jos, and has been in regular contact with the isolated members in the regions.

The annual Convention held during Easter was fully attended by delegates

from the provinces, and decisions were taken regarding training of workers and expansion of the work generally. The long-awaited rules of the Federation were finally approved and forwarded for printing.

Adyar and White Lotus Days were effectively observed.

The foundation of our Headquarters building proposed to be laid at Accra in September was postponed to a future date. Suitable arrangements for the ceremony will be made in due course.

K. BRAKATU ATEKO,  
*Organizing Secretary.*

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## CANADIAN FEDERATION

The past year has shown steady progress in all Lodges and we have just recently had an application for the formation of a new Lodge in Montreal, Quebec, which proposes to hold its first official meeting on November 17th. We have welcomed four members who have rejoined and also two junior members,

the first juniors to join for some time.

This year we held our annual Convention in Calgary, Alberta, so as to enable members from the prairie provinces to attend. This meant a long trip for those of us living on the West Coast, but not only did a number of us go from the

Coast Lodges, but also three from the North West Federation in the United States made the long trip to be with us. Our guest speaker was Miss Joy Mills of the Headquarters Staff of the American Section and it is largely owing to her splendid talks and public lecture that the Convention was such a success. The attendance was good from the Lodges on the prairies, and for many it was their first opportunity of attending a Convention. This has filled the members with enthusiasm and we feel well rewarded for our efforts in putting on a Convention in that area.

During the past year the Lodges in Eastern Canada as well as those on the West Coast have been fortunate in having visits from Mr. Felix and Mrs. Eunice Layton, Miss Clara Codd and Mr. John Coats. Their messages were very much appreciated and tapes of their talks were

taken so that they could be circulated among the Lodges which it was not possible for them to visit. Members of H.P.B. Lodge in Toronto also had the privilege of attending the first Convention of the Canadian Section.

Besant Lodge in Victoria has also taken a step forward in that they have a Lodge room of their own and this will undoubtedly increase their scope of activity.

The overall picture is that work is going ahead steadily and while numbers are not increasing rapidly, new members are coming in wherever there are Lodges or groups, which means that the message of Theosophy is being carried a little further afield in this vast area where so many have not yet had a chance to hear it.

JOAN S. MORRIS,  
*Secretary.*

## EUROPEAN FEDERATION

1958-1959 has in many ways been both a busy and a fruitful year for the Theosophical Society in Europe.

In the first place it has been marked by the visit of the President of the Theosophical Society, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who arrived in Europe in May and made an extensive tour. He visited Rome, Paris, the British Isles and Ireland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Holland and Denmark, lecturing and attending Summer Schools and Conventions. He also stayed five days at the Theosophical Centre at Huizen.

In the beginning of August, Mr. N. Sri Ram presided over the 23rd European Congress at Hamburg, which was attended by some 260 members from 19 countries, after which he was present at the English Summer School at High

Leigh. He returned to Adyar in the beginning of September, stopping in Paris and Athens on his way home. It is difficult to express in words how much the European work owes to his untiring activities. His visit will be remembered everywhere with deep gratitude.

Owing to passport difficulties the Summer School planned to take place at Ordino in the Republic of Andorra in September had to be postponed to another year. The numerous Spanish and also Portuguese visitors who had been able to attend the Summer School there in 1958, had greatly benefited by their renewed international contacts after many years of isolation.

The Regional German-speaking Summer School at Pichl in Austria was well attended and a great success. Contrary

to the often heard complaint that there is a lack of younger workers within our ranks, we were glad to see many capable young members present at this Summer School.

Regional activities, as well as the annual meetings of the Regional Committees of officials from different Sections, becoming more and more popular, are a source of inspiration for the work of the respective Sections. It is interesting to note how in a few years' time they developed into small international gatherings. Through the General Secretary of the European Federation and members of the Executive Committee they remain at the same time closely linked with the European work as a whole.

For the outgoing General Secretary, who concluded his last term of office on October 1st, 1958-1959 has also been a busy year and one of extensive travelling. Besides presiding over the Regional Committee Meetings at Brussels and Basle, as well as the Regional Summer School at Pichl, he attended the Conventions in Helsinki and Sweden, and the Icelandic study week in Reykjavik in Iceland. He further visited Norway, stopping on the way in Hamburg for the first preparations for the Congress. He also went twice to England and in May to Paris to meet the President. These personal visits and direct contact with Sections and individual members are necessary in order to be well informed about the needs of the work everywhere.

The Assistant General Secretary, Professor Haas, lectured to Theosophists in Stockholm, Helsinki and Vienna.

There is a close and happy contact with the European Young Theosophists as well as with the Round Table Movement in Europe which held its annual Summer Camp at the end of July at the Huizen Centre. That both movements deserve the full attention and the sup-

port of the older generation cannot be stressed too much.

The Research work is developing well, especially in England where the Research Centre is doing fine work. Holland may also be mentioned. It is of interest to know that Dr. Poortman has become Professor at the oldest Dutch University, in "Metaphysics in the Light of Theosophy".

Our three Federation periodicals: *Theosophy in Action*, *Adyar* and *Clarté*, respectively in the English, German and French languages, continue to be much appreciated. *Theosophy in Action* has a wide circulation outside Europe and will continue in its present form.

The European Federation and the Theosophical Centre at Huizen have come into closer contact since the Federation will have its official seat there, though the Headquarters will continue to be where the General Secretary is living. It is a natural outcome of good co-operation during many years. Though having much in common each has a mission of its own and will remain independent. It is felt, however, that both the Centre and the European Sections will greatly benefit by being thus more closely linked.

As customary the finance is dealt with separately. Owing to the fact that Professor Haas has this year been much away, lecturing at different universities abroad, Mr. Raven, our former Treasurer, has kindly given his invaluable help in preparing the financial report.

In the course of the year we welcomed in our midst four new General Secretaries: Mr. George Vliamos (Greece), Mrs. Sylvi Horstio (Finland), Mr. A. J. H. van Leeuwen (Netherlands) and Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson (Iceland).

Much to our regret Mr. Phan Chon Ton resigned from the office of General Secretary of the Young Theosophists in



Europe. He has been succeeded by Mr. Joris Brandt.

Mr. John Coats was elected Chairman of the European Council, the new title for General Secretary of the European Federation, during the Congress at Hamburg, while Prof. Haas has become the Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Rachel Tripet the European Treasurer.

It is, of course, impossible to thank all those with whom I have worked so happily during these many years of office for their co-operation and their warm friendship. I would, however, like to make a few exceptions in mentioning Mrs. Adelaide Gardner, Mlle. Pascaline

Mallet and Mr. Aeisso Raven, as well as my wife, Mrs. Adèle van Dissel, without whose devoted and efficient help little could have been achieved.

As far as the future of our work is concerned I cannot do better than quote from the President's article "Europe and World Unity".

"Ours is the task of supplying humanity with a vision—of Truth as well as of its own possibilities—and of being ourselves inspired by that vision in our life and actions."

J. E. VAN DISSEL,  
*General Secretary.*

## LODGES ATTACHED DIRECT TO ADYAR

### PERU

#### LODGE H.P.B.:

During the year Lodge H.P.B. has met three times a week. We follow a systematic plan for a better understanding of Theosophical teachings and deal with basic principles, followed by questions and answers. Other meetings are dedicated to elementary study and the spreading of Theosophy, and on another evening we have "free" subjects, sometimes reading an important Theosophical article and commenting on it.

During the year 138 meetings were held; the attendance averaged 20 to 25 persons. A number of visitors have attended our institution, there having been as many as 130 friends, non-members and strangers. Seventeen new members have joined the Lodge and three members have rejoined.

For the past two years Lodge H.P.B. has been issuing a series of mimeographed monographs, which are distributed to a select list of about 500 persons. We are

keeping up this service of what we call "Aportes" (Contributions) with special dedication because we consider them an effective help in our work. The distribution is not confined to this country only but is also made abroad. So far we have issued 36 of these works, the total number distributed having reached 10,000 copies.

For the New Year we distributed a leaflet "Do You Know That . . . ?" of which 5,000 copies were printed. We also published an equal number of leaflets with the title "Live and Let Live". In addition we have made free gifts (3,000) of a picture portraying ethical standards "How to Ennoble One's Life". We have, too, a beautiful pamphlet in circulation, the distribution of which has so far reached the eloquent figure of 10,000 copies.

JORGE TORRES UGARRIZA,  
*President.*

### LODGE LIBERACION:

The number of active members of Lodge Liberacion is eighteen.

Recently our Lodge has been studying Pavri's book *Theosophy Explained*, making extracts and comments. Together with Lodge Armonia we have held commemorative celebrations of the Theosophical Society's festival days both international and national, and have organized a number of social and cultural gatherings, with music and poetry readings, on days which are not occupied with Lodge work.

ZENAIDA DE FLORES,  
*President.*

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### LODGE EVOLUCION:

It was hoped that our President, Captain Segundo Rodriguez, would be returning to active work in our Lodge after having been, in the exercise of his duties, posted to a region at a distance from this capital, and therefore there has been a delay in sending the annual report of our activities.

The work of Lodge Evolucion has been carried on regularly with a weekly meeting; care is taken to deal with such subjects as in our judgment have vital interest from a Theosophical point of view. The attendance at the Lodge has been augmented by the presence of members from Lodge H.P.B. and friends who take an interest in our work.

Our number of active members is seven. We have endeavoured to fill, in the absence of our dear Bro. President, Captain Segundo Rodriguez, the delicate mission of representing him to the Headquarters of the Theosophical Society, regretting that we have not been able to give more details of our work.

ESTELA TRUJILLO,  
*Vice-President.*

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### LODGE ARMONIA:

During the year ending 30th September 1959 the following subjects have been studied in the weekly sessions of our Lodge.

1. *The Living and the Dead*, by Eliphas Lévi; 2. The Constitution of Man, according to Theosophical ideas; 3. The Formation of the Universe; 4. The Idea of the Absolute; 5. The Solar Logos; 6. Karma and Conscience; 7. Dreams; 8. The Fundamental Principles of Theosophy (for the benefit of new members).

Some of these subjects have been discussed in conjunction with members of Lodge Liberacion, which meets in the same building.

FERNANDO MANTILLA P.,  
*President.*

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### LODGE PAZ Y AMOR:

I completed a year as President of Lodge Paz y Amor on the 30th September 1959. Our active members number ten.

During the year just ended there have been twelve sessions of instruction and administration. Apart from meetings at the headquarters of the Lodge, Sister Consuelo de Torre Luna, as secretary of the Tejada Town Centre for Mothers, has charge of a medical post where she distributes 1,000 rations of milk powder to the children of the district. In addition, with Sister Quiroz, she directs a free school for 120 small girls and 80 boys. Brother Sarfaty continues his works of charity, giving fruit and other food to those in need.

ALFONSO REVOREDO IGLESIAS,  
*President.*

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## BOLIVIA

### LODGE PAZ:

During 1959 we have had regular weekly meetings which members and public have attended in varied numbers. We have developed subjects such as "Theosophy and the Septenary Constitution of Man" in a series of semi-private lectures and have also read and discussed *The Key to Theosophy* by H. P. Blavatsky, as well as some articles translated in *El Teosofa* from *The Theosophist*.

Two of our members have travelled to Cochabamba, the second town of Bolivia in number of inhabitants, and they have tried to revitalize the old Lodge Inti. We have lately received news from Cochabamba telling us that they have elected their new officers and are attempting to keep the Lodge alive by means of having regular meetings each week.

Our Lodge past-President, Mr. Mario Cariaga, has published—and himself paid for—two interesting pamphlets in Spanish on the cardinal subjects of Theosophy, namely Evolution and Karma and Re-incarnation, with ideas of his own. They

will be gratuitously distributed among the public.

F. IBORRA M.,  
*President.*

### LODGE LIBERACION:

Under the presidency of Bro. Elvira de Davila, assisted by Luisa de Jaimes Freyre and Aida de Saavedra, general meetings of our Lodge have been held weekly for the purposes of Theosophical study. Short talks are given in rotation by members of the Lodge, each at his particular residence.

The following public lectures have been arranged: On the religious life and customs of India; The importance of naturism in the matter of food, for spiritual evolution; The relation between the civilization of Tiahuanacota and Theosophy.

Social meetings are arranged monthly in the homes of members of the Lodge for purposes of good fellowship.

ELVIRA DE DAVILA,  
*President.*

## HONG KONG

### LODGE HONG KONG:

Though the Hong Kong Lodge was revived in November 1958 regular activities did not commence until the following April. The Lodge was chartered as a new Lodge on 16th November 1958, the former Manuk Lodge having become dormant during the last world war.

There are 20 members in the Lodge which has regular meetings at which various religious and spiritual questions

are discussed. We have established our Library at Shatin and most of the members are interested in Theosophical literature. We have also received several guests who came to visit Hong Kong and we are expecting other members from abroad to come and see us if they pass by this port.

T. V. ZUNG,  
*Secretary.*

## THE WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

The last annual Business Meeting was held in Varanasi on December 29th 1958, during the 83rd International Convention, under the Chairmanship of our President Srimati Rukmini Devi. Miss G. Sundari and Mrs. S. Sankari were re-elected as the General Secretary and the Treasurer respectively. Those elected to the Executive Committee were Srimatis S. Vasantha, S. Visalakshi, A. Sarada and Miss Georgina Boyd.

A Youth Symposium was held during the International Convention, presided over by Srimati Rukmini Devi, the subject being "Problems of Youth". Mr. Emmanuel Orara from the Philippines, Mr. Ashok Dawar, Mr. S. Krishna-murthi and Miss Mukta Moghe spoke in the Symposium. Mr. Bhanulal S. Chudasana from Mombasa, East Africa, attended the annual meeting of the Federation.

Two meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the year to consider the application of a number of Indian Young Theosophists who desired to become individual members of the World Federation and to consider matters concerning the maintenance of the Youth Headquarters building at Adyar.

*Our Work in the Past Year.*—The correspondence between the Youth Headquarters and the different Federations was more frequent this year. The annual reports from Australia, Brazil, Europe and New Zealand have been received. Those from Argentina, Indonesia and the United States are still awaited.

*Summary of the Reports from the Different Federations:*

*Argentina.*—A new Youth Federation was formed this year and has affiliated with the World Federation. Though the annual report from this Federation has not yet been received, from the previous

correspondence we know that the members are active in various fields of work. They run a small puppet theatre and arrange performances for children in primary colleges and at festivals. They are eager to correspond with Indian Young Theosophists, though they can write only in Spanish.

*Australia.*—Mrs. Cécile Novy, the President, writes that the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton to their country has given a great impetus to their work. This Federation consists of five groups of enthusiastic youths engaged in different types of activities at Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. The Brisbane group was formed this year. The Young Theosophist Convention was held during Easter in Brisbane. Apart from the regular meetings, which vary according to the needs of each group, outside activities are undertaken with great zest. Among their activities are Yoga classes, hiking, camping, weekends spent in the "bush" or at the seaside. There are many members from various countries called "New Australians" whose enthusiastic participation in the group activities give them an international character. The next Young Theosophist Convention will be held this coming January during the Indo-Pacific Conference.

*Brazil.*—There are two Youth Lodges, one in Sao Paulo and the other in Rio de Janeiro. The Young Theosophists are actively engaged in the work of the Theosophical Order of Service and the Department of Return to Nature; also in translation of articles written in English. These two Youth Lodges are not yet united as a Federation.

*Europe.*—Joris Brandt, the President, writes that their main activities consisted of the organization of international



summer camps and the publication of the magazine *Enthousiasme*. This year the Young Theosophists attended the European Congress in Hamburg held during the first week of August. More than 30 of them attended this Congress and therefore they did not have the international summer camp. Mr. John Coats, who was elected as the Chairman of the Council of the European Federation, Theosophical Society, during the Congress, was installed as the Patron of the Young Theosophists in Europe. The Young Theosophists also held several meetings of their own during the Congress.

The magazine *Enthousiasme* is published in French in France, and in English in Holland. The Theosophical Society in Europe helps financially since it is not self-supporting. The members of this Federation have been taking an active interest in UN work for refugees.

In Europe Young Theosophist groups exist in Germany, Sweden, Italy, France, Belgium and Holland. The largest and most active amongst them is the Dutch one. Though there is no separate Young Theosophists organization in Britain, the Young Theosophists meet regularly in Camberley at their Easter and summer camps. The number of Young Theosophists is increasing in Sweden and in Germany. In the other countries it is more or less constant.

*Indonesia.*—Though the official report has not yet been received, we heard about the wonderful work being done by the Young Theosophists from Miss Parwati, who was in Adyar in October. She gave a talk in the Youth Headquarters about the work of the Indonesian Young Theosophists. This is a very active Youth Federation with

the largest membership. The members are active in the Theosophical Order of Service, the Round Table, Buddhist Societies and the Vegetarian Society. We were very happy to have had Parwati with us.

*New Zealand.*—Mr. Douglas Collins writes that the different Youth Groups have been active in organizing study classes, group discussions and social periods. Their magazine was not published this year.

*India.*—Though no Youth Federation exists at present, several Young Theosophists desired to form a Youth Group and affiliate to the World Federation. Twelve Young Theosophists who met in Varanasi last December desired to attach themselves as individual members of the World Federation and sent a subscription of Re. 1/- each through our President to me. The Young Theosophists of Adyar meet as a group occasionally in the Youth Headquarters, though there is no Youth Lodge in the Headquarters. These members are very active in different fields of work. I tried to contact the members who desired to attach themselves as individual members, but I am sorry to say that there has been no response except in a few cases.

In concluding this Report, I extend my grateful thanks to Srimati Rukmini Devi for her encouragement and guidance, and to Srimati S. Sankari, our efficient Treasurer, who has been taking care of the Youth Headquarters Building at Adyar; also to Sri N. Janakiraman for kindly auditing the statement of accounts. I am specially grateful to Mr. Naranji Kevat for keeping the Youth Headquarters clean.

G. SUNDARI,  
General Secretary.

## HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

### OFFICERS

1958-1959

#### Executive Committee:

- |                               |   |                   |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT             | } | <i>Ex-officio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT        |   |                   |
| (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY   |   |                   |
| (4) THE TREASURER             |   |                   |
| (5) MISS KATHERINE A. BEECHEY |   |                   |
| (6) MRS. RADHA S. BURNIER     |   |                   |
| (7) MR. N. A. NAGANATHAN      |   |                   |
| (8) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI      |   |                   |
| (9) MR. C. D. T. SHORES       |   |                   |
| (10) MR. S. G. VENKATARAMANAN |   |                   |

**Adyar Library:** LIBRARIAN: MRS. SEETHA NEELAKANTAN.

**Archives:** MISS KATHERINE A. BEECHEY.

**Bhojanasala:** SUPERINTENDENT: MRS. K. JAGADA.

**Dispensary:** MEDICAL OFFICER: DR. S. V. JOSEPH.

**Engineering Department:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. D. SUBRAMANIAM.

**Garden Department:** ADVISER: MR. N. YAGNESVARA SASTRY.

**Laundry:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

**Leadbeater Chambers:** SUPERINTENDENT: MRS. A. D. WOUTERS.

**Legal Adviser:** MR. N. K. CHOKSY, Q.C.

**Post Office:** SUB-POSTMASTER: MR. V. SRINIVASAN.

**Sanitation and Hygiene Officer:** MADAME P. CAZIN.

**School of the Wisdom:** PRINCIPAL AND DIRECTOR OF STUDIES: MR. N. SRI RAM.

**The Theosophical Publishing House:** MANAGER: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

**The Vasanta Press:** MANAGER: MR. M. SUBRAMANIAM.

**Watch and Ward Department:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1958-59

The year under report saw the completion of the publications on which work had previously proceeded, and also the commencement of work on new publications. Arrangements were made with the well-known firm of Luzac for the sale of the Library's publications in the British Isles. The cataloguing of manuscripts has been steadily proceeding. Further progress has been made in drawing plans for the new Adyar Library building and it is hoped that it will be possible to lay the foundation stone soon and have at least the major portion of the building erected by 1961 when the Library will celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary.

*Staff.*—The Director, Miss Ann Kerr, returned to the U.S.A. in January 1959. We express our grateful appreciation of all the work she did for the Library in addition to other responsibilities which she had on the estate. We are happy that she continues to be a link between the Adyar Library and the United States.

Dr. E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma left in July 1959 to take up an appointment in the Sri Venkateswara University in Tirupati. Sri P. M. Advani also left to join another department of the Theosophical Society where his services were needed.

Mrs. R. Burnier, Mr. Charles Hunter, Dr. K. K. Raja and Mr. E. F. Orfila have continued to help the Library in an honorary capacity. Srimati Savitri Venkatram and Srimati R. Syamala have been devoting their time to repairing manuscripts and Mrs. Shrimati Buch has been occupied in indexing periodicals.

*MSS. Catalogue.*—Pandit V. Krishnamacharya has been scrutinizing the

Dharmaśāstra MSS. and also adding entries from the Visvabharati collection to the catalogue of Śrauta and Grihya MSS. Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma has been assisting him in the cataloguing work. The major part of the work on the catalogue of Visvabharati MSS. has been completed by Dr. Sreekrishna Sarma.

*Book Catalogue.*—Checking of the new card catalogue has proceeded under the direction of Srimati Siitaa Devii. Mrs. Shrimati Buch has prepared a card index to *The Adyar Library Bulletin* and has been working on one for the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. Miss E. W. Preston has continued to keep up-to-date the card index to *The Theosophist* which she has made for the Library and Mr. B. Wouters has been indexing the Watch-Tower notes; the Library is much indebted to both of them for sparing their time to do this valuable work.

*Publications.*—The *Lakṣmītantra* and the *Samgītaratnākara*, vol. II, were both brought out during the year. In addition the Library has published in its Pamphlet Series the *Ṛgvarṇakramalakṣaṇa* of Nara-siṃhasūri, a short work on the rules for pronouncing Ṛgvedic mantras, edited by Pandit V. Krishnamacharya. *The Epistemology of Dvaita Vedānta* by Dr. P. Nagaraja Rao appeared as the December issue of *Brahmavidyā*.

Projected publications on which work has commenced include the *Maṇikaṇa*, a Navya Nyāya manual edited by Dr. Sreekrishna Sarma with English translation and notes; an English translation of the *Śākta Upaniṣads* by Dr. A. G. Krishna Warriar; an English translation

by Pandit S. Subrahmanya Sastri of the chapter on Dancing in the *Samgīta-ratnākara*, now being revised by Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja.

During the year, arrangements have been made with the firm of Luzac & Co. to act as agents for Adyar Library publications in the British Isles. It is hoped that this will promote sales in this region. Messrs. E. J. Brill continue as our agents for the continent of Europe and the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, for all other countries.

Arrangements for exchange of publications were made this year with the Archaeological Survey of India whose Memoirs we receive.

*Bulletin.*—*Brahmavidyā*, Adyar Library's quarterly bulletin has 105 subscribers and is being exchanged with 109 journals. A drive has been made this year to increase the number of subscribers. Exchanges with the following journals have been newly initiated or revived: the journals of the Oriental Research Society of Glasgow University; of the Saugor University, Madhya Pradesh; of the Sri Venkateswara University Oriental Research Institute; of the Uttar Pradesh Historical Research Society; of the Greater India Society; *Kirjath Sepher*, from the National and University Library, Jerusalem; the Bulletin of the Madras Government Museum; *Samskr̥ta Pratibhā*, a Sanskrit journal published by the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi; *Pratibhā*, the journal of the All-India Institute of Mental Health, Bangalore; *Indian Philosophy and Culture* from Vrindavan; *Ancient India*, published by the Archaeological Survey of India; *Kairos* from Salzburg; *Tohogaku*, published by the Institute of Eastern Cultures, Tokyo; *Sharada-Peetha* from Srinagar; *Samgeet* from Hathras; and *Nigeria* from University College, Ibadan.

After Miss Ann Kerr left for the U.S.A., Mrs. Radha Burnier was appoint-

ed as a member of the Editorial Board of *Brahmavidyā*.

*Copying.*—During the year, 36 transcripts were made for other institutions and scholars. A portion of the *Śāstra-dīpikāvyaḥyā Nyāyakiraṇāvalī* has been copied for the Library's use; the work has yet to be completed.

*Binding and Repair.*—163 books and 539 issues of various periodicals were bound for the Library by the Vasanta Press. 145 books and 52 palm-leaf and paper MSS. were repaired in the Library.

The Library is much indebted to Mr. Charles Hunter who has occupied himself with covering palm-leaf MSS. with wooden boards to protect them. A large number of MSS. in the Library have for a long time been in need of such binding but it was not possible to have this work done till Mr. Hunter undertook it. 1,725 MSS. have had boards put on them during the year.

Mr. E. Fernandez Orfila has continued to supervise the repair work.

*Works Used.*—The Library has now 197 Readers, 118 Resident Readers, 52 Borrowers and 8 Braille Borrowers on its lists. During the year, 3,846 persons used the Library, the number of books consulted being 9,251 and of books borrowed, 3,467. Manuscripts consulted number 2,430.

*Accession.*—Books and manuscripts accessed this year total 1,326 and 36 respectively. Of the manuscripts accessed 17 were purchased and 19 were gifts. 45 of the manuscripts received during the year remain to be accessed, after fumigation and examination.

*Gifts.*—We once again acknowledge with thanks a gift of 63 palm-leaf manuscripts from Sri Santana Sastri of Mayuram who has made similar gifts on previous occasions. We are also grateful to Pandit V. Krishnamacharya who has given a palm-leaf MS. of *Nayaviveka*



and to Mr. E. D. Derrington of Birmingham, England, who has presented to the Library a copy of *Geography Rectified or A Description of the World*, printed in 1688. Among other donors to whom we owe especial thanks are: Mr. N. Sri Ram, President of the Theosophical Society, who has donated 324 books from the Library of Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa which form a welcome addition to our Western section; Srimati Lakshmi Krishnamurti, for a gift of 134 books on agricultural economics from the library of her father, the late Sri K. G. Sivaswami; Sri C. Krishnan who gave 97 books on behalf of his uncle Sri C. Krishnamachari; Mr. Arthur Relton who donated a collection of textbooks and readers for learning languages; the Bollingen Foundation, the Congress for Cultural Freedom, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Thadhani, Miss E. W. Preston, Sri Lakshman S. Gopi, Sri Babulal Barai and others.

Our thanks are also due to the American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Ky., U. S. A., Matilda Ziegler Publishing Company for the Blind, Monsey, N. Y., The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, Ojai, California, The Margaret Dudley Braille Lodge of the Theosophical Society, England, The Scottish Braille Press, Edinburgh, National Federation of the Blind, Inc., Wisconsin, U.S.A. and Prof. Manindra Krishna Kumar of Calcutta, all of whom have contributed Braille books to the Library.

We also express our gratitude to Mr. J. W. Hamilton-Jones and others who

have generously contributed to the Adyar Library Building Fund.

*Visitors.*—Among visitors to the Library during the year were Dr. D. J. Hoens of Utrecht; Dr. S. K. Mitra and Dr. C. C. Dasgupta of the Sanskrit College, Calcutta; Prof. W. H. Müller and Mr. Heinz Nitzschke of Germany; Mr. and Mrs. Karl F. Koopman of Charleston Co. Free Library and the Citadel Library, Charleston; the members of the Seminar for Traditional Culture led by Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastry; Mr. Natesan and Mr. V. K. Nair of the Madras Record Office; Mr. Landheer, Director of Libraries, Peace Palace, The Hague; Mr. Helge Backman of Uppsala University; Prof. Humayun Kabir, Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, New Delhi; Prof. Troy Organ, Ohio, U.S.A.; Sri R. C. Kar of the Indian Museum, Calcutta; Sri N. K. Bose, Director, Department of Anthropology, Govt. of India, Calcutta; H. H. the Maharani of Udaipur; Sri P. Achutha Menon, then India's Ambassador Designate to Argentina; and Mr. Felix Standaert, Belgian Consul General in Bombay.

In closing this report we offer our heartfelt thanks to all those who have helped the Library by contributing books, manuscripts, money and service, particularly to Dr. V. Raghavan of the Madras University for his continued interest, advice and help.

SEETHA NEELAKANTAN,

Librarian.

## THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

### REPORT FOR 1958-59

The School of the Wisdom has had a most interesting and successful session this year with a group of students consisting of members from 11 different countries and various parts of India. Altogether there have been 32 students, though not quite all attended at the same time.

The syllabus used was similar to that of 1957-58, comprising in the first term, studies in Creation, Evolution, Reincarnation, Karma, the Soul's Pilgrimage, the Plan, the Occult Path and Yoga. In the second term the following subjects were studied: Comparative Religion, Indian Art and Epics, Education, Philosophy and Science, Practical Occultism and the Society itself.

Our President Director, Sri N. Sri Ram, has given a valuable series of talks, especially during the first term and many deeply interesting talks have been given by Miss Emma Hunt, Sri M. Subramaniam, Miss Ianthe Hoskins and other Adyar workers; advantage has been taken of the presence in Adyar of overseas visitors who have lectured on their own special subjects. Notable among these was Dr. Troy Organ of Ohio University who spoke on Philosophy.

During the afternoon periods Lodge Work has been studied. There has been a regular Speakers' Training Class; also talks by Adyar department heads and visits to their departments, as well as talks on special subjects.

In so large and international a group there have naturally been some language difficulties. These have been admirably dealt with in the Speakers' Class by Miss Ianthe Hoskins who, in ingenious

and interesting ways, has inveigled all the students into making themselves easily heard and understood, as well as greatly improving their standard of public speaking. This year's group of students has included a large proportion of good speakers, which has enabled them to take a large share in the work and to ensure good discussions.

One feature of the School has been a series of Public Lectures given in the Headquarters Hall under the auspices of the School; nine in the first term and seven in the second. Three of the first series and all seven of the second were given by students of the School, the chair being taken by the students in turn. This series of lectures has proved popular, drawing an average attendance of 50 and serving the excellent purpose of making the students better known among the residents and workers of Adyar and helping to integrate them into Headquarters activities.

A new introduction into the work of the School this year has been a serious attempt to use Group Research as a method of study. The subjects chosen were "World Problems in the Light of Theosophy" and "Symbolism". These proved valuable and interesting, both from the point of view of subject matter and of providing plenty of practice in speaking as they were correlated with the Speakers' Class.

This was the 10th session of the School of the Wisdom and it has been most interesting to watch it grow and develop into a living organism. Both last year and this, the tendency has been for the

work to deepen in character. In six months it is impossible to cover all Theosophical teachings and apply them to living. The aim, therefore, has been to search for Truth behind appearances and to realize the true significance of the teachings rather than their details. All the students have felt this. They have been encouraged to take full advantage of their stay in the International Headquarters and to take part in all its activities, thus coming under the rich spiritual influence which abounds in Adyar, and by their study and work together, adding their own quota to it.

During the second term, three excursions were arranged. The first was a short one to the Madras Museum and Art Gallery to add colour to our study of Indian Art. The second was to Kancheepuram, one of the holy cities of South India about 50 miles distant. Here the students were warmly welcomed and entertained by the members of the Kancheepuram Lodge who piloted them around a number of ancient and beautiful Hindu Temples and other places of interest. The day ended with a Lodge meeting in the Kancheepuram Lodge room, where everyone spoke, giving their experiences of Theosophy. The meeting was a warm and friendly one and produced much brotherly feeling.

The third excursion was a longer one, under the expert guidance of Sri M. Subramaniam, to Madurai, involving two nights in the train and two days in the ancient city. Again we met with great hospitality and kindness from the members of the Madurai Lodge, who conducted us to the marvellous Madurai Temple

and the ancient Palace and arranged a Lodge meeting in their own beautiful building. They had advertised that members from Adyar would speak on "Theosophy and World Problems" and a large audience gathered to hear. Nearly all the members of the party spoke briefly giving their own contributions to the symposium.

There have been four occasions when the residents and workers of Adyar have been invited to join the students of the School: the opening and closing meetings of the School in both terms. In each of the closing meetings a number of students gave impressions of the School and of Adyar and our Principal, Sri N. Sri Ram, gave a short and inspiring talk. On each occasion too, refreshments were served on the spacious balcony of Blavatsky Bungalow where the School is held. This has given further opportunity for students, residents, and staff to get to know one another more intimately.

Thus ends another School of the Wisdom session. The students disperse, most of them to their own countries, carrying with them the richness of their experiences here at Adyar to help them in their work for their own Lodges and Sections. But the School remains, latent for a while, till a new group of students assembles—but nevertheless a living organism ready for use in the future, ever developing and deepening its influence. Who can say how far and how deep that influence will spread?

GLADYS M. TAYLOR,  
*Secretary.*

MEMORANDUM  
OF  
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



Station, Madras,  
Dated 3rd April 1905.

(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,  
*Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.*



# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

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*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy  
and Governor-General of India in Council, being  
an Act for the registration of literary,  
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

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## MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

## GENERAL COUNCIL

*Ex-Officio*

*President-Founder*:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

*Vice-President*:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

*Recording Secretary*:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

*Treasurer*:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

### *Additional*

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth

in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration

or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..  
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..  
 „ PYARE LAL ..  
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . . day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT  
 „ W. A. ENGLISH  
 „ SUBRAMANIAM  
 { „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE  
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU  
 „ ANNIE BESANT  
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

# RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, among

whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the General

Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

*Note:* Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and

shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call upon the members of the General Council for nominations for the office of President. Such call shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations and each member who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective Governing Body of the Section and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Any member of the Society in good standing shall be eligible for nomination. The written consent of the member nominated shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination. Such consent, if sent by telegraph or cable, shall be confirmed by letter so as to reach the Recording Secretary within forty-five days of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of forty-five days the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the written consent of the nominated member has not been received, as provided in the foregoing paragraph, shall be rejected as invalid. The others shall be counted and the names shall be



listed in the order of the number of nominations received, beginning with the largest number of such nominations. Such list shall be designated "the nominations list".

From the nominations list a second list designated the "voting list" shall be prepared on which names from the nominations list shall be placed in the following manner:

1. The first name on the nominations list, or in the event of a tie, the names so tied.

2. If the voting list then contains less than three names, the next name, if any remain on the nominations list, or in the event of a tie, the names so tied.

3. If the voting list still contains less than three names, the next name, if any remain on the nominations list, or in the event of a tie, the names so tied.

4. There shall then be added from the nominations list in the order of the number of nominations received, beginning with the largest number, the names, if any remain, of any other nominees who have been nominated by not less than half the members of the General Council.

The voting list as so prepared and amended as hereinafter provided shall constitute the list of nominees to be voted upon and shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall immediately in writing communicate all the names on the voting list to each nominee thereon. If the nominee is not at Adyar, the communication shall be by telegraph or cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails.

If during the succeeding twenty-eight days, any nominee withdraws his name, the Executive Committee shall cancel such name from the voting list and if such cancellations reduce the remaining names on the voting list to less than three, shall add thereto the next name if

any remain (or in the event of a tie, the next names so tied) on the nominations list.

Immediately following the expiration of the twenty-eight days the Recording Secretary shall communicate the voting list to the General Secretaries and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communication to the General Secretaries shall be by telegraph or cable confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails.

If, however, a withdrawal is received by the Recording Secretary during the last five days of the twenty-eight day period, he shall have five additional days in which to immediately notify the next nominee on the nominations list by cable and to receive his consent. In the event of his not consenting to stand for election, five additional days shall again be given for similar notification and a response in respect of each succeeding name on the nominations list until a substitute consents to stand. In the event of the nominations list thus becoming exhausted the election shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of the next preceding paragraph.

If, thereafter, any nominee withdraws his name or dies, such name shall be struck from the voting list but no further substitution from the nominations list shall be made. Provided, however, that in the event of the death, at any time prior to the counting of the election votes, of any of the nominees on the voting list, such list shall be thereby cancelled and the whole procedure shall be repeated beginning with the call for nominations. In the event of such cancellation, the Recording Secretary shall immediately communicate the fact together with the call for new nominations to all members of the General Council by telegraph or cable confirmed

within two days by air and ordinary mails.

If only one name remains on the voting list the subsequent vote shall be taken on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

Upon receipt of the voting list each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls at the close of the last official year of the Section, and whose annual dues at that time were not in arrears for more than one year, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the last official year of the Society at Adyar.

At the expiration of six months from the call for nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the largest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, the nomination and election procedure herein provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council.

It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members in the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten

members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and any other persons appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable

property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

*Note:* The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

#### HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

#### ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary;



and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, residing within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the Pre-

sident to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of

this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas (Certificates) directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of the Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

(b) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) certificates of Federation to any national group of Lodges not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment

territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of The Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows: In the case of a Lodge belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not situated within the territory of a National

Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for

all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

# FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, £1; for each Diploma (Certificate) of Membership, 5s.; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s.; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their Annual Subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5s. and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5s. and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories

to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge, granted by the President, shall *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest as follows:

(a) in The Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge coming under Rule 31 (c), (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided), and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge is situated, in the case of a Lodge within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of The Society except for the purpose of vesting in The Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge, as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges being not less than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in

number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in The Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which The Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to the Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

#### MEETING

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.



REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or

repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

Year	Place of Session	President	Secretary	Editor
1880	United States	Mr. James S. Burleigh	...	...
1881	England	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1882	India	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1883	Australia	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1884	London	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1885	New Zealand	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1886	The Netherlands	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1887	France	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1888	Italy	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1889	Germany	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1890	Sweden	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1891	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1892	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1893	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1894	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1895	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1896	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1897	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1898	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1899	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1900	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1901	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1902	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1903	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1904	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1905	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1906	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1907	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1908	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1909	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1910	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1911	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1912	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1913	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1914	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1915	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1916	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1917	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1918	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1919	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1920	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1921	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1922	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1923	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1924	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1925	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1926	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1927	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1928	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1929	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1930	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1931	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1932	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1933	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1934	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1935	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1936	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1937	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1938	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1939	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1940	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1941	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1942	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1943	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1944	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1945	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1946	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1947	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1948	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1949	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1950	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1951	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1952	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1953	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1954	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1955	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1956	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1957	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1958	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1959	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1960	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1961	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1962	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1963	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1964	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1965	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1966	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1967	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1968	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1969	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1970	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1971	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1972	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1973	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1974	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1975	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1976	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1977	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1978	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1979	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1980	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1981	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1982	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1983	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1984	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1985	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1986	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1987	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1988	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1989	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1990	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1991	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1992	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1993	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1994	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1995	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1996	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1997	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1998	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
1999	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2000	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2001	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2002	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2003	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2004	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2005	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2006	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2007	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2008	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2009	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2010	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2011	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2012	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2013	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2014	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2015	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2016	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2017	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2018	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2019	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2020	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2021	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2022	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...
2023	Finland	Mr. J. B. Burleigh	...	...

# DIRECTORY FOR 1960

## *Ex-Officio Members of General Council*

**President:** MR. N. SRI RAM

**Vice-President:** MR. SIDNEY A. COOK

**Recording Secretary:** MISS EMMA HUNT

**Treasurer:** MR. EDWIN N. LORD

## National Societies, Federations and Presidential Agencies

Date of formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Mr. James S. Perkins	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England	... Dr. L. J. Bendit	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W.1
1891	India	... Sri K. Rajagopalachari	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 1
1895	Australia	... Miss Helen V. Zahara	... 29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden	... Mrs. Eva Ostelius	... Östermalmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand	... Miss Clarice E. Gregory	... 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland
1897	The Netherlands	... Mr. A. J. H. van Leeuwen	... Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z.
1899	France	... Dr. Paul Thorin	... 4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy	... Dr. Giuseppe Filipponio	... Via Laurentina 622 (EUR), Rome
1902	Germany	... Direktor Martin Boyken	... Schulenröderstr. 10a, Bad Harzburg
1905	Cuba	... Mr. Alfredo Puig, Jr.	... P.O. Box 6365, Havana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Mrs. Sylvi Horstio	... Vironkatu 7C, Helsinki
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... Mrs. Mary G. Patterson	... P. O. Box 863, Johannesburg
1910	Scotland	... Miss Jean Carstairs	... 28 Gt. King St., Edinburgh
1910	Switzerland	... Madame Claire Wyss	... Bruderholzstrasse 88, Basle
1911	Belgium	... Monsieur Th. Chapellier	... 334 Rue Vanderkindere, Uccle- Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia	... Mr. Soemardjo	... Blavatskypark 5, Merdeka-Barat 17, Djakarta
1912	Burma	... U Po Lat	... No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Dr. N. Lauppert	... Maigasse 8, Graz
1913	Norway	... Mr. Ernst Nielsen	... Oscars gate 11, Oslo N. V.
1918	Egypt*	... Mr. Zaki Awad	... (President, "Hikmet El Kadima" Lodge), 18 Emad El Din St., Cairo
1918	Denmark	... Herr J. H. Möller	... Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Ireland	... Mrs. Evelyn O. Hornidge	... 31 Pembroke Road, Dublin
1919	Mexico	... Señor Arturo Vado López	... Iturbide 28, Mexico D. F.
1919	Canada	... Lt.-Col. E. L. Thomson, D.S.O.	... 52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina	... Señor Nazareno E. Rimini	... Casilla Correo No. 238, Rosario (Pcia. Santa Fe)
1920	Chile	... Señor Ricardo Michell A.-P.	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1920	Brazil	... Tenente Armando Sales	... Rua Anita Garibaldi 29, 11° andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson	... Ingólfsstr. 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...
1921	Portugal	... Prof. Délio Nobre Santos	... Campo Mártires Pátria 69, Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Miss E. Claudia Owen	... 10 Park Place, Cardiff

\* No Section; Lodge only.

Date of formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1923	Poland ...	...	...
1925	Uruguay ...	Señor Anibal Lissardy	Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico ...	Señora Esperanza C. Hopgood	Box 8774, Fernandez Juncos, Santurce, San Juan
1925	Rumania ...	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia ...	...	...
1926	Ceylon ...	Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q.C.	Roshanara, 20 Clifford Road, Green Path, Colpetty, Colombo 3
1928	Greece ...	Mr. George Vliamos	33 Vassileos Konstandinou Ave., Athens (K)
1929	Central America ...	Señor José Joaquín Ulloa	P.O. Box 797, San José, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay ...	...	...
1929	Peru ...	...	...
1933	Philippines ...	Mr. Domingo C. Argente	Corner Iba and P. Florentino Sts., Quezon City
1937	Colombia ...	Mrs. Carmen Correa de Vengoechea	Apartado Postal 539, Bogotá
1947	East Africa ...	Mr. Vallabhdas H. Kapadia	P.O. Box 354, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan * ...	Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	Noonan Road, Karachi 3
1948	Malaya and Singapore † ...	Dr. C. H. Yeang	88 China St., Penang
1949	Northern Ireland † ...	Dr. Hugh Shearman	18 Brookhill Ave., Belfast
1950	State of Israel * ...	Mr. Hans Zeuger	P.O. Box 1264, Jerusalem
1951	Japan ...	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam ...	Mrs. Nguyen-thi-Hai	72/6 Nguyen-dinh-Chieu, Saigon
1953	Venezuela ...	Señor Pablo Bonilla T.	Apartado 2907, Caracas
1956	West Africa † ...	Mr. K. Brakatu Ateko	P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
European Federation ...		Mr. J. B. S. Coats	Pons-a-Verran, Port Navas, Falmouth, Cornwall, England
(of National Societies in Europe, formed 1903)			
Canadian Federation ...		Miss Joan S. Morris	2050 Cypress St., Vancouver 9, B.C., Canada
(attached to Headquarters, Adyar, 1924)			

### Additional Members of the General Council

- MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Achelsedijk 290, Valkenswaard, The Netherlands (for 1960, 1961 and 1962).
- DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, United Kingdom (for 1960, 1961 and 1962).
- SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1958, 1959 and 1960).
- MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, The Theosophical Society, 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand (for 1959, 1960 and 1961).
- MR. C. D. T. SHORES, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1959, 1960 and 1961).
- MRS. GOOL K. MINWALLA, The Theosophical Society, Noonan Road, Karachi 3, Pakistan (for 1959, 1960 and 1961).

\* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the  
 † Federation } General Council.

## MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held in the  
H. P. B. Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on Friday, 25th December 1959  
at 2.30 p.m. and in the Boardroom at Headquarters, Adyar, on  
Friday, 1st January 1960 at 2.30 p.m.*

### PRESENT:

Mr. N. Sri Ram	..	<i>President (in the Chair). Proxy for the Vice-President, Mr. Sidney A. Cook, for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Scotland, and for Mr. J. E. van Dissel, Additional Member.</i>
Miss Emma Hunt	..	<i>Recording Secretary, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Ceylon.</i>
Mr. Edwin N. Lord	..	<i>Treasurer, and Proxy for the General Secre- tary of the Theosophical Society in Southern Africa.</i>
Dr. L. J. Bendit	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Finland and for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Greece.</i>
Mr. Rohit Mehta	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Soci- ety in India.</i>
Srimati Rukmini Devi	..	<i>Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Switzerland.</i>
Mr. Geoffrey Hodson	..	<i>Additional Member, and Proxy for the Gene- ral Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam.</i>
Mr. C. D. T. Shores	..	<i>Additional Member.</i>
Mrs. Gool Minwalla	..	<i>Additional Member.</i>

Present by invitation Mr. Albert Sassi, Switzerland.



1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Council held on 25th and 31st December 1958, having been circulated to the Members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

2. *Matters arising out of the Minutes:*

*The Theosophical Society in Greece.*—The President, who had visited this Section during the past year, stated that with a new administration brought into existence by a National Assembly of the members of the Section the trouble in the Section was now settled.

3. *Election of Two (2) Additional Members to the General Council for the years 1960, 1961 and 1962.*—The undermentioned members were declared duly elected as Additional Members of the General Council for a period of 3 years (1960, 1961 and 1962). The results of the voting were as follows:

	For	Against
Mr. J. E. van Dissel	35	1
Dr. Hugh Shearman	35	1

4. *The Treasurer's Report for 1958-59.*—Consideration of the Report of the Treasurer for 1958-59 was postponed until the Resumed Council Meeting to be held on 1st January 1960.

5. *The Budget for 1959-60.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September 1960, passed by the Executive Committee at the meeting held on 23rd December 1959, were adopted as detailed below:

## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1959-60

EXPENSE	Budget for 1958-'59	Actuals for 1958-'59	Budget for 1959-'60	INCOME	Budget for 1958-'59	Actuals for 1958-'59	Budget for 1959-'60
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages	38,000	41,764	43,000	Rent	51,000	55,602	54,000
Repairs and Renewals	40,000	56,616	40,000	Fees and Dues	25,000	26,791	25,000
Garden Expenses	57,700	47,863	55,200	Conservancy Charges	1,200	1,242	1,200
Light and Water	3,500	3,807	4,000	Garden Income	50,700	40,725	49,500
Miscellaneous	9,000	9,436	10,000	Wood	4,000	1,152	1,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone	3,000	3,618	5,000	Interest (Gross)	42,000	49,497	50,000
Printing and Stationery	4,000	3,862	4,000	Leadbeater Chambers		2,013	
Publications to General Secretaries	800	735	800	Administration Charges	7,130	8,130	8,000
Publication Grant to T.P.H.		1,000		<b>Special Departments:</b>			
Sanitation Expenses	5,000	4,376	5,000	Engineering Department	1,37,800	1,44,972	1,53,600
Taxes	15,000	15,072	15,000	Vasanta Press	1,59,000	1,72,314	1,94,000
Interest on Funds and Accounts	10,000	11,353	12,000	Laundry	5,800	6,479	6,600
Convention	2,000	1,343	4,000	Donations		74,195	
Watch and Ward	16,000	16,298	16,000	Deficit	67,270	8,682	75,700
<b>Contributions:</b>							
To Adyar Library	5,000	5,000	5,000				
„ Dispensary	4,600	6,313	6,000				
„ Museum and Archives	300	2,474	2,000				
„ President's Travelling Fund	6,600	6,600	6,600				
„ School of the Wisdom	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Bhojanasala	1,400	3,141	3,000				
Leadbeater Chambers	800						
Depreciation	19,300	19,794	19,800				
<b>Special Departments:</b>							
Engineering Department	1,37,800	1,46,327	1,53,600				
Vasanta Press	1,58,000	1,70,655	1,94,000				
Laundry	8,100	9,347	9,600				
	5,50,900	5,91,794	6,18,600		5,50,900	5,91,794	6,18,600

For The Theosophical Society,  
EDWIN N. LORD,  
Hony. Treasurer.

6. *The Appointment of Auditors for 1959-60.*—Messrs. M. K. Dandekar and Co. Chartered Accountants, were re-appointed Auditors for the year 1959-60 on the same remuneration and on the same terms and conditions as in the previous year.

7. *The Appointment of the Executive Committee for 1960.*—The following members were appointed:

President	}	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President		
Recording Secretary		
Treasurer		
Miss Katherine A. Beechey		
Mrs. Radha S. Burnier		
Mr. N. A. Naganathan		
Srimati Rukmini Devi		
Mr. C. D. T. Shores		
Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan		

8. *Any other Business:*

(a) In order to make it clear that the President is authorized officially to sign contracts and agreements, the Treasurer brought forward a Resolution to add the following clause to Rule 22 of the Rules and Regulations:

“Contracts and agreements necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Society shall be signed by the President. This power may be delegated, in specific cases, by the President or the Executive Committee to one of the other Officers.”

The Resolution, after some discussion, was held over for further consideration.

(b) The following Resolution to change the title “Recording Secretary” to “Secretary” was received from Miss Ann Kerr, Additional Member:

“As the duties of the international officer of the Theosophical Society now designated Recording Secretary have for many years included administrative work and correspondence with General Secretaries of the National Sections as well as the keeping of the records of the membership throughout the world, I should like to propose that the General Council be asked to consider changing the designation from *Recording Secretary* to *Secretary*, and amending the Rules and Regulations of the Society accordingly.

“The Rules which would be affected are numbers 2(a), 2(d), 4, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22(a), 22(b), 24, 25, 29, 32, 33 and 34.”

The attention of members of the Council was drawn to Rule 2(d) of the Regulations which provides for the Recording Secretary to carry out correspondence with General Secretaries and other members of the General Council. Rule 2(d) states: “The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.” After some discussion it was generally agreed that the term “Recording Secretary” has a certain distinction from long use and might be retained.

(c) *Term of Vice-President.*—Dr. L. J. Bendit proposed an amendment to Rule 11(a) and (b) whereby the term of office of the Vice-President should be specifically stated. There were various suggestions but no definite decision was made.

(d) *The Relation of Research Centres to Section Authorities.*—The President brought forward a suggestion made by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner, Secretary for the Theosophical World University, that the General Council might discuss and define the relation of Research Centres to their Sections.

The general opinion of the Council, after some discussion, was that it is not within the province of the General Council to make a decision in the matter, but that each Section should be free to define its own policy.

(e) *Peace Lodge Resolution:*

On behalf of Mr. T. H. Redfern, Secretary of the Peace Lodge, Hyde, Cheshire, England, the Recording Secretary put before the Council a Resolution passed by his Lodge on January 23, 1959, as follows:

“THE BLAVATSKY HERITAGE

“The Theosophical Society was founded and took shape around the work of Mme. Helena Petrovna Blavatsky acting, she declared, as the agent for a Brotherhood of Adepts, men altruistically devoted to the welfare of mankind and possessed of powers beyond those commonly developed at humanity's present stage of evolution. These men said they had something to communicate which mankind needed to correct the calamity-loaded errors of current thought.

“Mme. Blavatsky was born in a distinguished family of the Russo-German aristocracy, and was a woman of heroic qualities and sensitive nature. She transmitted a body of teachings embracing the origins and evolution of the cosmos, the solar system, our planet and mankind upon it, which were supplemented in various letters from members of the Adept Brotherhood to which she belonged. The main collection of these letters is now preserved in the British Museum. The proffered teachings bridged the gap between religion and science and put the phenomena of psychism and spiritualism in a new and more intelligible setting by presenting concepts of the universe in which spiritual, psychic and physical worlds are united in a common, interactive field of dynamic energies. The inner spheres of energy are declared to be as visible to those having clairvoyant insight as is the physical world to all of us not afflicted with blindness.

“These explanations give a coherent metaphysical basis for human life that calls for the highest standards of wise and kindly conduct. They were not put forward for blind acceptance, but for honest consideration and assessment by truth-seeking students in a society of free and fearless investigators.

“Members of the Society are invited to study these ideas and decide for themselves how convincing they are, putting aside for later reflection those not yet acceptable and rejecting any they can disprove. They are open for enquiring comparison with all other hypotheses, but members are asked to take particular care that the name Theosophy is not applied to doctrines other than and incongruous with those in the Blavatsky heritage unless some distinguishing



adjective is used. Theosophy is obviously greater than the range of concepts put forward by Mme. Blavatsky—she herself said so—but it is unfair and misleading for the name chosen to describe the view of the universe and the meaning of life as she presented it in, for example, *The Key to Theosophy* and *The Secret Doctrine*, to be applied without qualification to amalgams and extensions that have no warrant in her expositions. Members are asked to honour her memory and respect her valuable work by preserving and disseminating her explanations intact and without distortion or confusion.”

The above Resolution was intended as a third Declaration to balance the two Resolutions passed by the General Council on “Freedom of Thought” (23-12-1924) and “Freedom of the Society” (30-12-1950) which are published in each issue of *The Theosophist*.

The Council was unanimously of the opinion that it would not be advisable to pass any such Resolution, restricting the word Theosophy to the writings of H. P. Blavatsky or any other specific works, however much these might command the respect of the members in general, as it would undermine that freedom which we regularly proclaim by the General Council’s resolutions of December 1924 and 1950. H. P. B. herself has warned us against hard and fast dogmas and the danger of the Society degenerating into a sect.

(f) *North-Siegfried Legacy, French Section:*

The dispute in the matter of this legacy was renewed by Mr. M. Bohrer in a letter to the Recording Secretary dated November 15, 1959. In her reply the Recording Secretary stated that the matter had been twice placed before the General Council and that the decision on each occasion was that it “saw no cause to interfere in the dispute” (see Minutes of meetings of General Council, December 1948 and December 1950.)

The President explained that the dispute had been decided legally by the Courts of Law in France. By their decision Prof. Marcault had an absolute right to dispose of the property according to his judgment, and the General Council would be well-advised not to intervene in a matter which had taken its own proper and legal course. The Council agreed with this view.

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## GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING RESUMED

*Friday, 1st January 1960 at 2.30 p.m.*

Mrs. Gool Minwalla, Additional Member, sent her excuses.

Mr. K. Rajagopalachari was present as the newly elected General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in India.

4. *The Treasurer’s Report for 1958-1959.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September 1959, presented by the Hon. Treasurer with his report and recommended for adoption by the Executive Committee, were given consideration and approved.

8. *Resumption of any other Business:*

(c) The matter of the term of the Vice-President's office, governed by Rule 11(a) and (b), was again discussed. Dr. L. J. Bendit agreed to send a carefully worded amendment to the Rule for consideration, after his return to England.

(g) Dr. Bendit read a letter he had received from Mrs. Greta Eedle referring to a proposal made in 1952 by Brother C. Jinarājadāsa that a book be compiled by F.T.S. entitled *The Fundamental Principles of Life and Action*; Mrs. Eedle asked to have the matter discussed at the General Council. The members of the Council commended the idea and hoped that suitable people would come forward to undertake the task of compiling on their own responsibility.

EMMA HUNT,  
*Recording Secretary*

# SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1959

National Sections (Active) ..	40
Presidential Agencies (Active) ..	2
Federations formed under Rule 35 (b) ..	3
Total Lodges (1959) ..	1,371
Total Membership:	
1958 ..	33,750
1959 ..	33,768
Increase ..	18

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
29. Argentina ..	53	1,351
30. Chile ..	9	150 (1956)
31. Brazil ..	28	930
32. Bulgaria ..	—	—
33. Iceland ..	11	427
34. Spain ..	—	—
35. Portugal ..	13	144
36. Wales ..	6	174
37. Poland ..	—	—
38. Uruguay ..	7	90
39. Puerto Rico ..	7	91
40. Rumania ..	—	—
41. Yugoslavia ..	—	—
42. Ceylon ..	11	111
43. Greece ..	7	203
44. Central America ..	8	134 (1958)
45. Paraguay ..	—	—
46. Peru (Lodges attached to Adyar) ..	6	127
47. Philippines ..	16	183 (1958)
48. Colombia ..	13	146
49. East Africa ..	21	800 (1957)
50. Pakistan* ..	8	267 (1958)
51. Malaya & Singapore† ..	7	169
52. Northern Ireland† ..	3	54
53. Israel* ..	5	81
54. Japan ..	—	—
55. Viet-Nam ..	14	557
56. Venezuela ..	8	147
57. West Africa† ..	4	182
58. Canadian Federation ..	8	222
59. Fellows-at-large ..	—	14
60. Lodges and members attached to Adyar:		
Bolivia ..	2	22
Hong Kong ..	1	25
Others ..	13	284
" ..	3	282
Total	1,371	33,768

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
1. United States of America ..	144	4,234
2. England ..	105	2,736
3. India ..	432	7,162
4. Australia ..	19	1,240
5. Sweden ..	13	389
6. New Zealand ..	19	1,019
7. Netherlands ..	36	1,542
8. France ..	49	1,241 (1958)
9. Italy ..	31	1,069
10. Germany ..	20	416
11. Cuba ..	21	598
12. Hungary ..	—	—
13. Finland ..	24	514
14. Russia ..	—	—
15. Czechoslovakia ..	—	—
16. Southern Africa ..	14	623
17. Scotland ..	18	211
18. Switzerland ..	12	223
19. Belgium ..	10	393 (1958)
20. Indonesia ..	25	1,020 (1958)
21. Burma ..	7	59
22. Austria ..	13	289
23. Norway ..	9	164
24. Egypt (Lodge only) ..	1	21 (1956)
25. Denmark ..	13	286
26. Ireland ..	4	50 (1958)
27. Mexico ..	27	550
28. Canada ..	13	352

\* Presidential Agency.

† Federation.

EMMA HUNT,  
Recording Secretary.





